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Clare's baby, and her happy ending

Exclusive: Suzanne Moore reveals Labour MP's 31 year secret



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Together at last: Clare Short and Toby Graham in Victoria Gardens Londo Clare Short, shadow Minister for Overseas Development, has been reunited with the son she had not seen since she handed him over for adoption six weeks

after his birth Ms Short, who was a 19-year-old student in Birmingham when they parted, met him only four weeks ago. Toby Graham is now 31, and married with two

During an interview with The Inderendeur, she sat with her arm round the handsome man in blue pinstripe. They are obviously besotted with each other,

even though they only met a month ago: "I found out I was pregnant just after my eighteenth birthday. My first thought was my parents - you know I come formal Catholic family. It was different times back then. Everyone was

more innocent." Tony Blair, the Labour leader, who has spoken frequently about the im-portance of family ties said last night he was thrilled for Ms Short and wished her the best of happiness.

Clare married the child's father and contacted a private adoption agency. I just thought I would never go back to university, that it would be terrible all round, terrible for the baby, there would be no money, so what I was doing was best for everybody. When they came to take him it was terrible. It's been

Toby was adopted by John Graham, ing that hers was a large and loving familiar but I said: "What's this high profile terrible ever since."

education appointments

of East Anglia and is now a solicitor in ed and started searching for his natural parents about a year ago. "Officially I've been looking for about a year, but in my mind I always wanted to know and always intended to do this. I suppose

the director of a public company and has ily. "Circ added: "I tried to fill him in wife, and brought up in comfortably off on family instory, I said we had lots of conservative family. He went to board teachers, that we were into social reform, ing school, read law at the University a little left. I talked about his father's family and how much I regretted what the City. He always knew he was adopted and started searching for his naturone little problem: "Tve got this slightly high-profile job and we don't want the press crawling around." He just thought was being melodramatic.

Ms Short was married for seven

who has since remarried and still lives

Toby was desperate to meet up and even though he had heard his mother's

voice on her answering machine, he

didn't catch her sumame or the message

saying that she could be contacted at the

inside When she abswered the door we just sort of stared at each other lattice minutes. Then we talked and talked we are very emotional. I did cry but not with stare. Suzanne Moore talks to take Short and ger son, lots about how they were reunited. Page 20.

what triggered it was when I had a child. I wanted to know what was in the genes." Clare had registered that she was in Birmingham

available if he ever wanted to find her. When she was first contacted, she had registered in another name: "I wanted to protect him from the shock of it being me". She wrote to him, imagining that they would exchange many letters House of Commons. When they evenbefore they finally met.

Toby said: "It was a lovely letter say-

Photograph: Brian Harris

job you've got then? She said that she was an MP.

Toby's politics have always been Tory. As a student, he even stood as a Tory candidate, but even before he met his mother he was starting to become disillusioned with the Government. Before they met, he described himself to her as a one-nation Tory who was now looking at Blair. Toby may now be more interested in politics, but the priority remains for him to meet his huge family, and for Clare to meet her grand-

Toby says he now "feels much more complete as a person - I know who I am, were I come from, what my roots are". Ms Short holds out his hands. "Look," she beams, "He's definitely got my hands and feels like me inside. So why has she never talked about it before? "It wasn't a secret. It was a loss and pain in me. I wasn't hiding anything, it was just that this big thing at the centre of my life was painful. Of course, now I feel fabulous - it isn't painful any more.

Here he is." Giving his reaction last night, Mr Blair said: "I am thrilled for Clare that she has met her son and that they have been able to form such a warm relationship ... Clare first told me of this situation some time ago after her son approached her ... I tually met at her house, he still did not hope the media will be sensitive in their

approach to the other people involved."

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The Tabloid

Mick Jagger: movie and divorce page 2

The nation decides it is time to banish the gun culture

Colin Brown and Jason Bennetto

The Government was split and facing the threat of an embar-rassing Commons defeat last night after refusing to bow to Labour and backbench Tory demands for a total han on hand-

Michael Howard, the Home Sepretary, announced to a solemn House of Commons that all high-calibre and semiautomatic handgurs are to be bahned from private homes and gun clubs in the wake of the Dunblane massacre in which 17 people lost their lives. His announcement was in-

tended to defuse a potentially damaging row for the Govern-ment in the run-up to the election. But with John Major sitting by Mr Howard's side, the Home Secretary faced crossfire from Tory MPs who said he had gone too far and others – led by David Mellor, the former Home Office minister - who protested he had not gone far engugh.

The Government rejected an appeal by Mr Mellor for a free vote on a total ban. Labour was last night threatening to form a united front with the minor parties, including the Scottish National Party, to defeat the Government on the Guns Bill. in order to impose a total ban on handguns, including all .22 weapons. But the Liberal Democrats could help the Government avoid defeat. "We support the Government. We want something that is work-able, not populist," said a party source.

Tory Party sources hit back at Labour last night, accusing Tony Blair of "playing party pol-itics" with the aftermath of the Dunblane killings.

The-Prime Minister had hoped to secure cross-party support after the Cabinet de-cided to go further than the Cullen report on the Dunblane killings. But Labour outflanked Mr Major and the Home Secretary by hardening its stance in response to the powerful swing of public opinion - led by the Dunblane Snowdrop cam-

paigners - behind a total ban. Last night the campaigners reiterated their call for such a ban. Les Morton, whose daughter, Emily, was among the dead, said in a statement on behalf of all the families: "Any decision to confinue to permit lawful posession of firearms implies a



willingness by this Government to tolerate gun crime. It also implies a willingness to tolerate an-

other Hungerford or Dunblane. "We have argued all along that this is an issue on which there must be no compromise. What we have before us is exactly that - a compromise.
"A compromise that will re-

sult in future abuse of the system which will result in the deaths of more innocent people. A compromise which is not acceptable to us. Ann Pearston, an organiser of the Dunblane Snowdrop pe-

tition, said its members would now be contacting the Labour party to carry on their campaign at the next election. At the other end of the argument, the firearms industry was shocked by the announce-

ment. Brian Carter, a member of the British Shooting Sports Council and director of the Gun Trade Association. was astounded by the move. He said: 'This will be disastrous. It will mean 500-600

small businesses will close and a minimum of 1,000 jobs will be The Home Office said own-



ers of the 160,000 handguns that are to be banned will be allowed to sell them overseas, via dealers. About £24m has been allotted to pay compensation for the remaining guns that are handed into police stations for destruction.

New legislation will be contained in the Queen's Speech next Wednesday and Royal Assent is expected before Christmas. Anyone caught in possession of the outlawed higher-calibre handguns will be liable for a jail sentence of up to 10 years. A similar penalty will apply to people who keep the permitted small calibre handguns outside gun clubs.

Dashing the Government's hopes that yesterday's announcement would end political controversy over the issue. right-wing libertarian Tory MPs last night threatened rebellion against Mr Major, who they attacked for following public oninion

Edward Leigh, a long-term critic of John Major's leadership, led the attack from the right, telling Mr Howard it was worrying" that the Government was banning law-abiding people from carrying out their sport. John Carlisle, another right-wing dissident, told the Home Secretary his proposed changes were "wrong" and would be received with "great dismay".

Ministerial sources also privately told The Independent that the Cabinet had capitulated to public opinion. One minister said it was a "knee-jerk" response to the political pressure for action in the run-up to the general election. Ministerial colleagues said Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland, was also keen to take action because it would help him to hold on to his Stirling constituency, which in-

cludes Dunblanc. Mr Forsyth argued within Government that the public less than a ban on the heavy calibre weapons Hamilton had

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, warned that Parliament had failed the country by not taking tougher action after the Hungerford killings with semi-automatic rifles. "We owe it to the victims of both Hungerford and Dunblane not to fail again."

Leading article, page 19 Cullen report, page 4 &5

QUICKLY

Russian plot claim The power struggle in Russia deepened with Alexander Lebed accused of plotting a coup.

£3m pay-off row A political row followed compensation of £3m to the former boss of BET

Willetts inquiry MPS agreed to investigate the conduct of former whip David Willetts during the Hamilton

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Sometimes, when Mr Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, stands at the dispatch box, i seems that the skin and bone of his head have become a translucent shell, through which it is possible to observe and to admire the intricate workings of his political mind.

Here - beside the left frontal lobe -- is his populism receptor, keenly attuned to the minutest barometric change in the electorate's air pressure. Attached to the cortex is a meter, measuring what his colleagues will and will not wear. Between them run a series of electrical currents, along synaptic path-



AARONOVITCH

ways, testing this position or that proposal and computing their

But never has this superb machine been placed under so much strain as this week on the subject of Dunblane and guns. And vesterday the whirring and clanking was audible throughout the Chamber, as Mr ing to lose out. So he had to Howard struggled with the contradictions of his position.

His is, as he always reminds us, the Party of law and order. But it is also the Party of shooters - who cannot see why their enjoyment should be curtailed : because of the actions of a few. It is the Party of toughness on criminals, but also the freedom of the individual. It is the Party of prisons, but also the Party that loathes the nanny-state. Ever since Labour dispensed with the Wait-for-Cullen ab-

surdity, Mr Howard has been

come to the House with a "tough" plan of action, hoping that not too many would ask the obvious question: if guns are so awful, what exactly was the

government doing between Hungerford and Dunblane? But the proposals also had to give something to what is called "the shooting fraternity". Thus did Mr Howard baulk at a complete ban on 22 weapons, quoting Cullen as saying they were "four-to-six times less powerful", and could be kept at secure gun clubs. His statement ended up with some vintage hypocrisy. "I aware from the public response

expects nothing less".

Jack Straw, his opposite number, had only been allowed to see the Cullen report and the Home Secretary's statement a paltry three or four hours before Mr Howard stood up in the House to make it. Nevertheless Straw's position had, for once, the immense strength of consistency and he spoke well. Ban

the lot, he said.

Ah, replied Mr Howard, the synaptic canals pulsing there we have it, the difference between us and Labour. "We believe it is possible to give the public pro-

urge the parties opposite to tection without the need for a support that Bill. The country total prohibition.

Immediately, the Howard plan began to come apart in front of our eyes. David Mellor put his finger on part of it. If it was going to be made so incredibly difficult to exercise a legitimate right to shoot handguns, then why not ban them algether?

Jack Straw, whose mind is not as dull as some beliève, called for a free vote. Now, there is no justification for this, other than taking pleasure in watching the Howard machine blow itself un. But thus, dear readers, is

significant shorts

environmental crime-wave

Britain has become a key staging post in an expanding international environmental crime-wave, the country's first seminar on the subject heard yesterday.

The nation's busy sea and air ports, its hub position on international trade routes and the fact that police, customs and other government agencies are only just starting to get to grips with the problems have given Britain the role. Banned substances including ozone-destroying CFC chemicals and parts from endangered wildlife

pass through.
Police raids in UK cities have demonstrated that large quantities of medicines purporting to contain extracts from endangered species such as tigers and bears are entering Britain for sale here but much is though to be for sale abroad.

John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment told a Chinese journalist at the seminar that the British government had no quarrel with Oriental medicine. But he claimed that endangered wildlife parts were only used as aphrodisiacs, although tiger parts are said to have many beneficial effects. Nicholas Schoon

Unionist MP goes it alone

A row broke out yesterday inside David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party with one of its nine MPs announcing his intention to run as an independent in the next election.

Although the party in North Belfast has yet to hold its selection meeting the cur-rent MP, Cecil Walker, claimed he was the victim of a right-wing conspiracy which had the apparent support of the party leadership. A split in the Unionist

vote in this cockpit constituency could result in an unpredictable contest which might bring the election of a Sinn Fein MP.

Since Mr Trimble's election as leader a year ago it has been an open secret that many members of the parliamentary party he inherited than whole-hearted support. In turn, some of Mr Trimble's warnings of severe financial close associates have made it problems. plain that they wanted to see many of the sitting MPs replaced by younger, more energetic and more right-wing figures. Mr Walker is 71.

Suspect held over TRA plot'

questioned by anti-terrorist police in France yesterday in connection with a suspected IRA bomb plot. Sources said his identity card had been discovered during a police raid on a London flat in July. Seven people were arrested in the raid, which was believed to have thwarted an IRA bombing with only hours to spare, and a cache

Mary Dejevsky – Paris

Britain hub of Parents' advice brings big fall in cot deaths

Fewer infants are dying in **England and Wales because** parents are now heeding advice to prevent cot deaths. experts say.

Government statistics show the lowest-recorded infant mortality rate ever. Since 1971, the rate has fallen by 65 per cent, from 17.5 per thousand live births to 6.1 in 1995.

Ralph Settatree, Clinical Director for the Confidential Inquiry into Stillbirths and Deaths in Infancy, a govern-ment-funded research group, adviseD parents to make surc babies sleep on their backs and not their sides or front.

Stores warned on 'fresh' bread

Frozen bread cannot be considered fresh, trading stan-dards officers said. They are to issue new guidelines next month on the way supermarkets must describe their bread baked in-store.

The Local Authority Coordinating Body on Trading Standards is worried that consumers could be misled into thinking that all such loaves "fresh-baked", "ovenfresh", "freshly baked here today are prepared from be-ginning to end on the

An officials suggested some supermarkets were misleading their customers.

New hospital dooms Bart's

Supporters of St Bartholomew's, the famed 900-year-old hospital in the City of London, yesterday vowed to fight on as plans were unveiled for a new hospital nearby which will mean its almost certain closure.

The £300m 1,100-bed development, on the site of the present Royal London Hospital NHS Trust in Whitechapel, will be the biggest Private Finance Initiative hospital project in the health service to date. ■ A cash injection of £200m is needed to save the health service from a winter crisis. according to a review of health authorities and tro which confirms doctors'

The National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts says the NHS is "pulling out all the stops" to ensure that emergency and David McKittrick intensive care services are ready for the winter surge in demand but that this is being

done at a cost. Non-urgent treatments are being restricted or cancelled A French citizen, named as Jean-Louis Becker, was being and waiting lists will grow, according to the NAHAT report, while debt is eating into next year's resources.

Unspoilt pubs

Up to a 1,000 pubs have un spoiled interiors of architectural or historical importance which deserve protection, the Campaign for Real Ale said. Its Good Beer Guide 1997. published yesterday, lists 197 with interiors of outstanding

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Labour warns against curb on sleaze inquiry Anthony Bevins and John Rentoul their responsibilities to this

The Commons was warned last night that Labour would not tolerate any attempt to obstruct an all-party investigation into a whip's interference with a 1994 inquiry into the Neil Hamilton

Acting on an allegation that David Willetts, a Treasury minister and former whip, had improperly given advice that could have blocked an investigation into allegations that Mr Hamilton had received cash pay-ments, the Commons last night agreed to open an investigation into the conduct of Mr Willetts.

But Ann Taylor, shadow Leader of the House and a member of the investigating Standards and Privileges Committee, warned the House that Labour would not let the new investigation get bogged down for lack of evidence.

She told MPs: "I hope that those who may be called to give evidence, or to provide documentation, will also be aware of

fox n. cruel,

sly killer.

above).

cunning, ruthless,

huntsman n. (see

In this week's Radio Times, John Peel

examines the arguments for and against fox hunting and

discovers there are no easy answers.

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT.

House, and that everything the committee needs will

forthcoming." Mrs Taylor then added: "Unless that is the case, then these matters will not be resolved. I trust, therefore, that everyone will co-operate fully."

Labour clearly fears an operation of Government-inspired foot-dragging, in the possible hope that the inquiry will get bogged down - and even slip beyond a May election.

Moving the motion for a formal complaint of breach of parliamentary privilege to be investigated, Labour MP Andrew Miller said it was not for whips to meddle in the quasijudicial investigation of a select committee.

He said an open, public inquiry, and firm action, was required to restore public faith in Parliament.

Alf Morris, a former Labour member of the old Privileges Committee, intervened to say that junior whips like Mr Willetts did not operate as soloists;

they were "choreographed" by more senior colleagues like the

Tony Benn told the House that if it was a corrupt practice for an election candidate to offer a voter a £1,000 inducement to vote, it should also be an election offence for an MP to accept £1,000 to ask a question.

Meanwhile, Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, has opened his investigation into the original - and buried - allegations about Mr Hamilton accepting cash payments from Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods.

Sir Gordon has so far invesigated four allegations that MPs broke the ethical rules of the Commons, with at least

three now outstanding. Meanwhile, Doug Hoyle, the Labour MP whose local party received a donation from the Jobbyist Ian Greer, announced yesterday he was resigning from the Commons committee investigating the cash-for-ques-

Royal train faces axe

Christian Wolmar

Fransport Correspondent

The Royal Train looks set to follow the Royal Yacht into oblivon after the Government announced yesterday that it was changing the way Royal travel is to be funded.

The Royal Family will in future receive a single grant for transport each year, rather than having the costs of the train and the Royal Squadron met automatically by the Department of Transport and the Ministry of Defence. The members of the Royal Family will then have to decide how best to spend that money and the train is unlike-

ly to be affordable. Last year, the cost of their travel was more than £9m and the 31 outings cost an average of £61,290 including security expenses, a total of £1.9m for the year. It was used by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal and the Duchess of Kent. With a tighter budget, they are likely to choose cheaper methods of travel, such as hiring the

odd first-class carriage.

The proposal is thought to have been finalised at the recent Way Ahead Group meeting at Balmoral last month. The group, which consists of senior members of the family and advisers looks at possible reforms of the monarchy as well as

planning public engagements. The Royal Yacht Britannia is set to be decommissioned next year because the cost of a replacement was considered too high and the Royals are trying to shed their ostentatious image. The new grant will come

from the Department of Transport which will expect to make annual cuts to the amount. In answer to a parliamentary question, the Prime Minister, John Major, said yesterday that a similar scheme for "property services on the occupied royal palaces" provided a suitable model. This had led to "savings in excess of 25 per cent" over

the past five years. He said: "Once the new sys-tem is established, targets for savings will be agreed and performance against them published (annually),"



The truth is out there: A Greenpeace protest against the intended use by Unilever of genetically manipulated soya beans in its products. The demonstration took place at the company's headquarters in London yesterday Photograph: Araminta De Clermont

Education vouchers scheme is forcing nurseries to shut down

several years older. He added: "Heads of schools have

seen this is a competitive exer-

ludith Judd Education Editor

Playgroups are being forced to close by the Government's nursery voucher scheme as schools rush to admit children who are

only just four. Officials from Norfolk, one of the four councils in the pilot scheme, will next month tell the Commons Select Committee on Education about its concern that some four-year-olds are being sent to schools which are not equipped to cope with them. As Conservative-controlled

Wandsworth and Westminster

yesterday presented evidence to

the committee of their reser-

Michael Edwards, Norfolk's chief education officer, said the number of children attending playgroups had dropped sharply this term and six had gone out of business. From next April parents of all four-year-olds will be given

vouchers worth £1,100 to spend in private, voluntary or local authority nurseries or schools. Mr Edwards said the mechanics of the scheme were "not unworkable" but he was worried because a growing number of young four-year-

cise because of the money involved. Where there are only Education + The Tabloid

two or three classes in a school. there are more four-year-olds in mixed age classes and that is worrying from an educational point of view. We have tried to ensure that there is appropriate olds were being admitted to teaching but it is very difficult small rural schools and put in for teachers in small schools to classes with children sometimes cope with these children."

Playgroups - or pre-schools -say 39 schools have changed their admissions policy to admit children immediately after their fourth birthday. They fear that three-year-olds, who are not eligible for vouchers, will be unable to find pre-school places as

playgroups are forced to close.

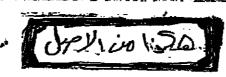
Margaret Lochrie, of the
Pre-School Learning Alliance, said their survey showed that, in addition to the recent clo-

sures, a number of playgroups were struggling to survive. Meanwhile, four-year-olds were being admitted to reception classes where the staffing and equipment were sometime not appropriate. Nursery class-

es must have a higher pupilteacher ratio than school reception classes.

Mrs Lochrie said:"There is rampant competition from schools. Most four-year-olds are going to end up in reception classes and that is not nursery education.

Robin Squire, the schools minister, said: There is no financial needs for state schools to expand the places they offer to four-year-olds unless they want to. Where they do decide to expand state schools, like "" those in the private and voluntary sector will want to consider carefully the quality of what they offer."



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Ageing pop star turns Bronte into a critical cliffhanger

David Lister Arts News Editor

Sir Cliff Richard had donned his long black wig, grown menac-ing sideburns, even accidentally knocked out a fellow actor in rehearsal. But even his Heathcliff was powerless against the unpredictability of new technology.

Finally realising a dream he had nurtured for more than 30 years, Sir Cliff, 56, played Emily Bronte's brooding hero in the

opening of a new musical based on Wuthering Heights.

But the 4,000-strong full house to see Heathcliff at Birm-ingham's indoor National Arena did not realise that the lavish show they were watching was a victim of computer error. One-third of the sophisti-

People said I couldn't do this. But I looked in the mirror and said: I'm still Cliff

cated computer projections were not used as a shortage of technical rehearsal time and other hi-tech mishaps caused their abandonment for the longawaited first night of this £3.5m

Richard'

Sir Cliff and the rest of the cast arrived in Birmingham yesterday after hiring Earls Court in London for four days to rehearse and in his eagerness to portray the demonic side of swipe at those whippersnapper Heathcliff, Sir Cliff knocked out Oasis chappies. "Cliff doesn't his fellow actor Jimmy Johnson throw cans of beer off tin one of the rehearsal fight and spit at everybody.

this very odd piece of casting. In last night's show it was hard not to blink at Sir Cliff up on stage not only beating up his pregnant wife but also smoking opium. For this production travelled a lot further than made Trainspotting, have now Fmilv Bronte's Yorkshire, offered this late in life, swarthy, Emily Bronte's Yorkshire,

Heights and imagining him as a ruthless merchant adventurer and opium trader. Miss Bronte had not forseen

the scope for exotic Oriental juences and laser-led flights of fancy.

Before yesterday's first night of the five-month long four-city tour which has already sold 340,000 scats and taken a record £8.5m, the God-fearing Peter Pan of pop was determined to prove an affinity with English literature's most romantic and dangerous

"Quite a lot of people said I couldn't do this," he said. "He's the nice guy singing Living Doll. And every morning I looked in the mirror and thought damn, I'm still Cliff Richard.

"But when I put the wig on I felt different. No, I've never been cast aside by a lover for someone else. I have nevertheless loved and felt love and lost love, wished someone would love me. All those feelings, we've all felt them."

Supervising last-minute re-hearsals, the director, Frank Dunlop, said: "Cliff is a very daring person. This is his biggest

And Sir Tim Rice, who composed the score with John Farrar of Grease fame, added: "Cliff is very misunderstood. He is an artist with lots of

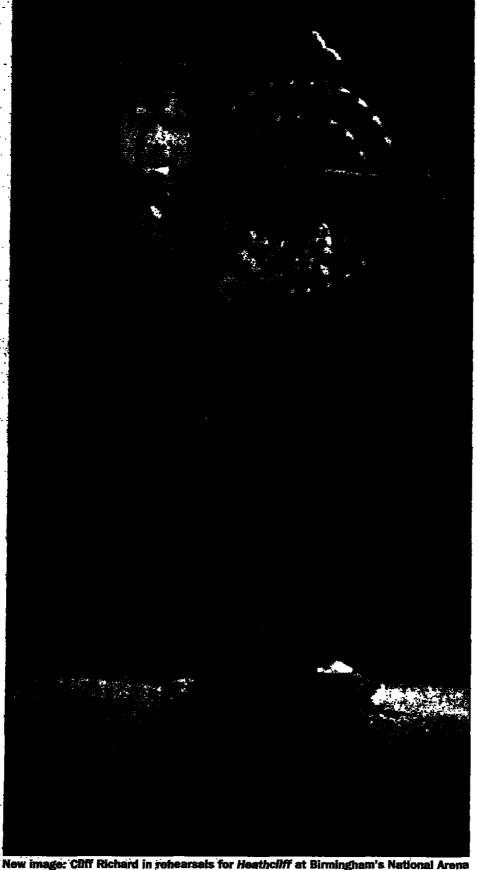
Outside the stage door, the fans were in no doubt of their ageing hero's suitability for the role. Barbara Byrne, from Warrington, had seen Cliff in concert 374 times and followed him round Australia, though she failed to get a ticket for this Birminghām opening. "Of course he looks the part," she said indignantly. "He looks like a man. The beard has changed

him totally. . And she added with a sidethrow cans of beer off the stage

Six Cliff summed it all up Perhaps it was appropriate in modestly saying: "I've never embarked on anything like this before and I never will again. This could be the swansong of

my career."

That now looks unlikely Polygram, the company which exploring the time that Heath-cliff was away from Wuthering passionate Cliff Richard a new film script – his first for 25 years.



...and some other odd castings

Gable struggled with the role

revolutionary who comes to

married woman. Critic Frank

Nugent called it: "A singularly

of an 19th century Irish

grief over his love for a

pallid, tedious and

Poppins (1964)

Van Dyke's pitiful

attempt at a Cockney

audiences to hysterica

30 years after the release of

accent still reduces

laughter more than

this children's classic.

unconvincing drama."



Allah (1936)

Was Bons Androvsky in the tale of a Trappist whose conscience is restored by liquor on his wedding night. Better known as villainous husband to Ingrid Bergman's

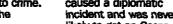


Horribly miscast as stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, and a far cry from her most famous part as straight-laced Maria in West Side Story. One critic said she resembled a "plastic wind-up doll strutting the runway".



Humphrey Bogart - The Amazing Dr Clitterhouse

Bogart deviated from his normal tough-guy roles to play a mad criminologist who becomes addicted to crime. He did not repeat the



(1970)

stunningly bad portrayal of Ned Kelly, the Australian hero outlaw, nearly caused a diplomatic incident and was never likely to get an Oscar

Mick Jagger - Ned Kelly

Compiled by Sam Coates

Life for lorry driver who ended Celine's journey of optimism

Lorry driver Stuart Morgan was convicted yesterday of the murder of 19-year-old French student, Celine Figard, who he picked up at a service station, raped and strangled before

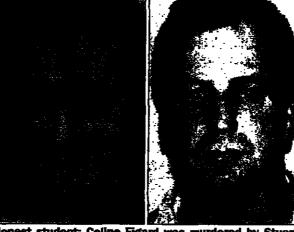
dumping her body in a ditch Morgan, 37, of Parkestone in Dorset attacked Ms Figard af-ter she had hitched a lift with him at a motorway service sta-tion in Hampshire last December. Detectives believe he carried the body in his lorry for

carried the body in his lorry for nine days over the Christmas period befine burning her clothes and abandoning her body in a lay-by near-Worcester.

The jury reached their unanimous venticiant the end of the 11-day trial Juding Morgan for life, Mr Justine Lanham told him: "What precipied to Celine has caused revillation in the minds of all right-thinking people." Morgan had admitted giving her a lift, claimed they had coasensual sex, but had denied consensual sex, but had denied

Ms Figard's encounter with Morgan was the tragic culmination of a journey of youthful optimism. On 18 December the accountancy student had waived goodbye to her parents, Martine, 43, and Bernard, 47, at the family farmhouse in Ferrieres Les-Scey, 250 miles south-east of Paris, and headed for England.

She had spent two months of the previous summer working at the Ashbourne Hotel in



Honest student: Celine Figard was murdered by Stuart Morgan, who carried her body in his lorry for nine days

her cousin Jean-Marc. She was popular among guests and in-vited to work over Christmas. Although "naive and trust-

ing", it is believed Ms Figard would never deliberately have put herself in danger. She had decided to hitch to save money - a decision which cost her

acranged by family and friends. It was only for the final stretch that she put her trust in a. At Chievely service station

Most of her journey was carefully planued; 90 per cent of it completed with lifts

gan continued driving and sleeping in the lorry for three days before parking the vehicle outside his house to enjoy Christmas with his 11-year-old son and wife.

It was not until 29 December that Morgan set about dispos-ing of the body. As police forces around the country searched for Ms Figard and the sandyhaired, bearded driver with whom she was last seen, Mor-

phone to contact her relatives.

She was last seen at 4.35pm climbing aboard Morgan's

white Mercedes lorry. Shortly

afterwards, she was dead. Her

body remained in the bottom

bunk of Morgan's cab through-

out the Christmas period. Mor-

Shropshire, he set fire to some of Celine's clothing, dumping her bloodied underwear in a hedge. He then travelled to the lay-by on the A449 near Ombersley, Worcestershire, where he dumped Celine's naked body in undergrowth by the road. Shortly after 12.30pm a local resident discovered the corpse and the nationwide murder hunt began.

Detective Superintendent Bob McCamont, who led the murder hunt, described Ms Figard as "the sort of person that anybody would be proud to have as a daughter".

"She was an articulate, honest student from a rural part of France who loved England. She was a lovely girl who spoke Eng-lish fluently."

Her father Bernard, who made an emotional appeal to the British public two days before Christmas, said of his beautiful little girl": "Celine was just a 19year-old student trying to find her way in life and she went to England to improve her English. She was a dedicated student and she never had much time for boyfriends. My little Celine was too busy studying.

The description contrasted with the warped image of Ms Figard that Morgan presented to the court in his defence. He painted a portrait of a "druggie" and a "hussy" who seduced him with hours of their meeting.

Morgan, married twice and

small inscription onto one of the fence posts. It declares the green wooded copse: "Le Jardin de Celine" - Celine's Garden.

way where Ms Figard's body was

dumped, someone has carved a

Owners of pets seek **BSE** answers

Charles Arthur and Anthony Bevins

Pet food manufacturers denied yesterday that their products might be contaminated with BSE, but the MP who first raised the fears insisted that important safety questions had not

een answered. The Pet Food Manufacturers Association (PFMA), whose members sold a billion pounds worth of cat and dog foods last ear, said that the suggestion by Martyn Jones, a microbiologist and Labour MP, that BSE-infected "meat and bone meal" (MBM) – produced from grinding down cattle carcasses could end up in pet food was "a

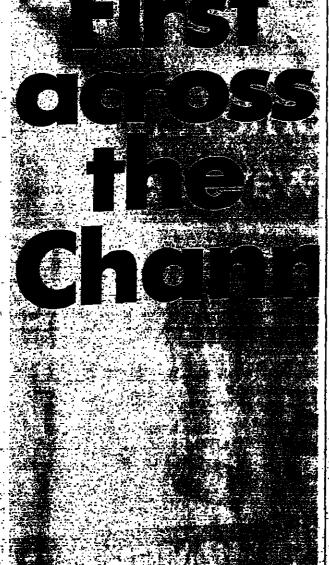
nisunderstanding" Anxious pet owners inun-dated the RSPCA and the PFMA with calls vesterday, seeking advice,

Under a government order. pet food containing MBM may not be prepared on the same premises as food for cattle or sheep. But the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff) said yesterday that this was done to avoid cattle being fed any meat remains, and that it did not imply that MBM might be contaminated with BSE. However, the measure has clearly been taken so that there is no possibility of BSE-infected products being passed back into cattle feed. This "recycling" is believed to have caused the original epidemic, which has so far led to almost 164,000 cases of BSE being diagnosed. and an estimated 700,000 cattle which were developing the disease being passed as lit for human consumption. MBM is made from such cattle. The agent that causes BSE is not killed by the manufacturing process.

Dogs appear to be immune to BSE, but cats have developed a version, called feline spongi form encepalopathy (FSE). Since the first case was identified in 1990, 71 FSE cases have been reported: all in the UK. But there has been a sharp decline in cases: last year there were eight, but this year there rors the BSE epidemic, which in 1992 saw 36,000 cases in cattle. So far this year there have been 5,219 cases.

Mr Jones said yesterday that a number of questions re-mained unanswered about the material being used in petfood. "Some petfood representa-

tives have said that I have accepted that I misunderstood the situation. That is not true. Having spoken to them, there are still questions to be an-



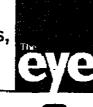




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Draconian laws that must let us hope

Safety strategy with no margin for error

James Cusick

The Government claimed yesterday that it had gone further than Lord Cullen's recommendations. However the force and precision of the 200-page report and its series of 28 recommendations had left little room for

Tighter vetting of those ap-plying for any firearm; increased police powers and police training in dealing with firearms; increased powers to inspect dealers; a new licensing regime and new security measures for all gun clubs will mean a new era

for gun ownership. The Government's adoption of Lord Cullen's advice will make British gun laws some of the most dracanian in the world and far tougher than those of our European nartners, However, restricted access to handguns in Britain was the core recommendation the Government had waited for since the 26-day inquiry ended on 10

The report argued in favour of a clampdown on self-loading pistols and revolvers of any calibre held by individuals for

target shooting. It recommended safeguards in guns not in use in which internal mechanisms would be removed and locks fitted to barrels where practical. The separated parts would then be

Crucially, Lord Cullen said that if such a system was not adopted then "the possession of such handguns by individual owners" should be banned.

The Government rejected the idea of "separation" and said it intended to go further than the report, "banning all high-calibre handguns" and prohibiting people from keep-ing even single shot handguns at home.

The report dismissed the wholesale prohibition of all guns, including rifles and shotguns, as unnecessary. Similarly Lord Cullen did not recommend the ending of the present system of certification, only its improvement. "Stopping short of a ban," the report stated, "is the one open to the least objection on the grounds of practicability."

The report made clear what will now happen to the sport of pistol shooting given the Government's intended ban, stating: "Ban on multi-shot handguns would to a very large extent destroy the sport of target shooting and have significant effects

on the economy." After the massacre at Dun-blane Primary School on 13 March in which 16 children and their teacher were killed by Thomas Hamilton, the Cullen inquiry remit included the future safety of schools and the safeguards of those who

The report's recommenda-tions, adopted by the Government yesterday, will mean schools being ordered to "prepare a safety strategy" to protect pupils and staff. Where the funds will come from to pay

A new national body for youth clubs and groups, which will see improved vetting and the national exchange of infor-

for the improvement will now

be made aproblem for the Trea-

mation, is to be set up.

The years when Thomas
Hamilton was investigated by police after questionable conduct at the boys' clubs he ran are examined in detail in the report, together with the persistent ru-mours of paedophilia and the way Central Scotland's police enforced national gun laws. In one key sentence describing the methods used by the Central police force in their gathering of criminal intelligence, the report states: "It was a glaring deficiency in the oper-ation of the force's information

One officer in particular, deputy chief constable Douglas McMurdo, is accused of "adopting an unduly narrow approach in which he paid not much more than lip service" to the idea that a person could be deemed unfit to have his gun licence renewed. Mr McMurdo, who resigned from Central



Shadow of the gunman: Practice yesterday at the Safari Gun Club in Chigwell, Essex

ly after the report was published, idence." gave evidence to the inquiry as

The regime Britain's gun a witness. Lord Cullen's report owners face following the said "Mr McMurdo's position Cullen report will mean in-. underwent a disconcerting

era of safety measures. Many, the report accepts, will be unable to afford the changes and will go out of business

bership of at least one gun club; each club will be required to inform the police when a cer-Firearms certificate holders a member and gun clubs will

son to liaise with their local A new national computer

all individual certificate holders.

Funding issue left unanswered

Judith Judd **Education Editor**

The Cullen report does not address the question teachers most want answered - how much extra money will there be for school security?

Government has promised "substantial additional resources" from April next year. Local authorities will be given additional funds but will have to find 40 per cent of the costs themselves.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of

Head Teachers, said: "The Government has got to stop pussyfooting around and say unequivocally that it will provide 100 per cent of the cost of improving security out of brand new money. All parents are entitled to expect that their child will be safe in school. Schools cannot be expected to provide new security systems from their own hard-pressed resources or for local authorities to have to top up Government grants with

money diverted from other educational needs.

retary of the National Union of should the numbers of enquestion of cash was central. "Action plans and security plans are helpful but unless the money is there to back them up, they won't take schools anything like far enough.' Some teachers were disap-

pointed by the report's failure to make more definite recommendations. Lord Cullen emphasises that each school must devise a strategy suited to its own circumstances and list a series of suggestions in the form Doug McAvoy, general sec- of questions, for example: selves into fortresses.

Teachers, also argued that the trances be restricted? He makes firmer recommendations about what should be done once an emergency is under way than about general measures to prevent intruders. Schools have already become

more security conscious after a series of violent incidents on or near school premises. Some have put up fences, blocked entrances, introduced identity badges. But almost all agree with Lord Cullen's view that it would be wrong to turn them-

esentment out on the range

Michael Streeter

The reaction to the near-total handgun ban among members of the Safari Gun Club in Chingford, Essex, was swift and

"Will it make the streets safer? No. Will it save anyone from dying? "No," insisted regular Savvas Toufexis, after a session firing his Ceska Zbrojouka handgunat the club. People are being deprived of what they enjoy doing without any social benefit for anyone. The Government is simply pan- weapons in circulation - esti- istered dealer, who watched

dering to a section of public mated to exceed 4 million - conopinion.

The club, which opened last year, has 150 members and is one of more than 2,000 in the country which will be struggling to survive. Its members had been bracing themselves for the bad news. Much of their anger stems from their belief that the Dunblane tragedy arose out of a failure of the licensing system, carried out by central Scotland police, and not the ownership of weapons per se.

They point to illegally held

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trasting with the 160,000 weapons likely to be banned by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard. They said British entrants would be barred from a number of international shooting events using .32 calibre weapons. Mr Toufexis, who owns six guns due to be banned

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Hungerford massacre had still not received compensation. Richard Law, the club's reg-

was also worried about com-

pensation, and said owners of weapons banned after the

Michael Forsyth's announce ment on television in stunned silence, said the clubcould still become a centre for 22 calibre pistol and revolver users: "It depends on whether the owner will still want to come."

The angry mood in Chingford was echoed at the Shooters' Rights Association which represents 5,000 shooters and dealers. Spokesman Guy Savage claimed 10,000 jobs could be lost: "One million shooters are royally pissed off at being made a scapegoat for the actions of

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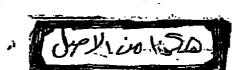


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Police chief resigns after criticism

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

The police officer who was chiefly responsible for allowing Thomas Hamilton to keep the handguns used in the Dunblane massacre resigned yesterday after being severely criticised in the Cullen Inquiry.

Douglas McMurdo, 56, was at the time Deputy Chief Constable of Central Scotland Police, and was in charge of approving firearms certificates.

He renewed Hamilton's licence despite a warning from a colleague that he was unstable and an "unsuitable person to possess a firearm". A second oflicer also reported that she was concerned about Hamilton.

Furthermore Lord Cullen described the failure to record the warnings in Hamilton's criminal intelligence file as a "glaring deficiency".

Mr McMurdo, who became Assistant Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland in February, yesterday handed his resignation to Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scot-

land, which was accepted.
The Cullen Inquiry heard how Detective Sergeant Paul Hughes wrote a memo in 1991 asking superior officers to consider revoking Hamilton's licence after investigating claims he had assaulted several boys during a camp. He wrote: "I am firmly of the opinion that Hamilton is an unsavoury character and unstable personality." He added that he was "a scheming. devious and deceitful indi-

vidual who is not to be trusted". nos - A second officer agreed alghough a third did not. Mr Mc-Murdo wrote "no action" on the memo and later told the inquiry that DS Hughes' remarks were based on "a gut feeling".

(

In 1995 Detective Constable Anne Anderson visited Hamilton to consider his application for his certificate to be renewed. She reported she had a "strange feeling" about him and felt slightly intimidated. Mr McMurdo again signed the renewal after considering the evidence for "a few minutes". Lord Cullen said that Mr Mc-Murdo placed great impor-tance on the fact the Mr Hamilton did not have a criminal record. He said he ap-

the absence of a conviction or pending criminal case." Mr McMurdo yesterday said: Throughout four years as a police cadet and 37 years as a police officer I have always tried to do what was right and prop-

peared to have "adopted an

unduly narrow approach in which he paid not much more

than lip service to the idea that

a person could be 'unfitted' in

er and within the law. "In my dealings with Thomas Hamilton, whether it was with regard to his complaints against the police or the licensing of his firearms, I likewise tried to do what I felt was right and within the law.

"I firmly believed at the time and still do now that the decisions I took were the only ones open to me. Nevertheless, I have to accept the conclusions reached by Lord Cullen. In the circumstances I do not believe I can continue as Assistant Inspector of Constabulary."

Central Scotland chief constable William Wilson last night spoke of "sadness" over the resignation of Mr McMurdo.

He added Lord Cullen had made "some criticism" of his force, particularly the time taken to notify relatives of the dead, and in its firearms licensing



Pressures made ban inevitable

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Behind the high minded statements yesterday, party politics and public pressure made an almost total ban on handguns

Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland, played a pivotal role in forcing the Cabinet and the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, to adopt a tougher line. Mr Forsyth visited the school with George Robertson, his Labour shadow, on 13 March, the day

of the killing. Both were terribly moved by the aftermath of the carnage, the holes in the walls and the Countdown to new legislation

teacher in three minutes at Dunblane

scattered, bloodstained clothes

A week later, John Major ordered Lord Culien to carry out an investigation into the killings. He was well-respected for his pragmatism after his inquiry into the Piper Alpha oil rig disaster and his terms of reference were drawn wide to enable him to make recommendations "as

13 March: Thomas Hamilton kills 16 children and . mittee vilified for refusing to recommend a ban: - 3 October: Arin Peaiston, Snowdrop campaigner

28 April: 35 killed in Tasmania killing, Australian Party configence.

Government announces ben on 10 May.

15 October: Cabinet of
1 August: Six Tory MPs on Home Affairs Select Composition. 22 Weapons. Party conference 15 October: Cabinet commi

may seem appropriate".

David Mellor, the former of Hamilton's victims.

Home Office minister, became the first Tory MP to call for an outright ban on handguns. He had few sympathisers on his own benches. In a BBC radio interview yesterday he crackled with anger at the way home office ministers dismissed his calls as a "knee-jerk" reaction.

The Home Office wanted a long cool look to be taken, possibly in the hope pressure for a total ban would fade. Ministers were keen to avoid being

bounced into bad laws such as the Dangerous Dogs Act. But events conspired to keep the demands for a ban high on the agenda. A deranged gun-man in Tasmania killed 35 people in a gun massacre on 28 April. Within 12 days the Australian Government announced its own ban on guns.
The speed of the Australian

Government's response made the British Government look leisurely. The turning point came on 1 August when a group of six Tory MPs were vilified for using their majority on the Commons select committee on Home Affairs to reject a ban on

At the time, their position was defended by ministers. But the public outrage was a foretaste for the Government of the backlash which it would face if it sought to take similar halfhearted measures.

Mother: They sold us short after all'

"It is not enough to stop this happening again." That stark message, from Pamela and Kenny Ross, who lost their daughter Joanna in the carnage at Dunblane Primary School on 13 March, came yesterday after publication of the report they had patiently waited for.

On 1 August, in a letter to the Government which appeared on the front page of the Independent, Mrs Ross asked it quite simply to "Listen to me". The passionate, logical, and plainspeaking letter had enormous

impact.

Next week the couple's other daughter, Alison, will cele-brate her first birthday. Mrs Ross's letter asked the simple guarantee her safety when she starts school?" The answer they said they got yesterday from the Cullen report and the Govern-ment's action which will follow was a resounding "No".

At their home in Dunblane yesterday the couple said: "We've really got no feeling left ... Lord Cullen had a unique moment. If he had unequivocally advocated a complete ban. the Government would have been left with no choice." The partial ban, still allowing ownership of .22-calibre guns stored

at clubs, "is not enough".

At the Dunblane Hydro Hotel, just up the road from the school, the parents of all the deceased children issued a joint statement: "The ... atrocity that was committed that day against our children, their teachers, their school, this community, this country, was so horrendous that it almost defies belief ... We believe the seeds of this tragedy and of other such tracedies rest in what we believe to be a gun culture in this country, a gun culture perpet-uated by a tiny minority."

Friday, 18 October at 10:00 pm (British time)



How to call France from the United Kingdom

On 18 October 1996 at 10:00 pm British time, France will switch to a new telephone numbering plan. These changes anticipate for the ever increasing volume of telecommunications traffic in France (new services, fax, mobile phones, etc.). This new plan provides a reserve of numbers for several decades to come and marks a further step

towards harmonization with European directives and international recommendations.

This New Telephone Numbering Plan applies to all numbers you call in France. To call a number in France from the United Kingdom, after 00 simply dial the country code 33, followed by a 9-digit number.

9 digits to call all numbers

To call the "provinces" (outside Paris and the Paris region)

Depending on the location, dial 2, 3, 4 or 5 in front of the current number, which remains the same.

The digits to be added are shown on the area code map and in the area code table.

For example: 00 33 20 becomes 00 33 3 20

To call Paris and the Paris region

There are no changes. You will continue to dial the 9-digit number which begins with 1. For example: (00 33 1

To call mobile numbers To call a mobile phone, dial 6 before the current 8-digit number, which remains the same.

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To the current number Add: beginning with:		Add:	To the current number beginning with:
6	10	6	07
6	02	. 6	
6	03	6	09
6	06		

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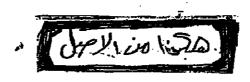
Don't forget to update your personal directory. If necessary, modify all French numbers (including speed dialing) stored in your equipment telephones, fax machines, etc.

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For all-calls within France, dial 0 before the 9-digit number. The domestic long distance access code, 16, will no longer

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To Party Conference has ever faced a more fundamentally important issue than the one the Referendum Party will debate on Saturday in Brighton.

What is at stake is the very future of Britain as an independent nation.

You, personally, may believe that Britain should abandon its sovereignty and merge into a federal European super-state, governed by officials in Brussels.

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This advertisement prepared by Banks Hoggins O'Shea on Behalf of the publisher: the Referendum Party, 1st Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF.

The battle begins to take the boredom out of Bracknell

Clare Garner

It's grey, it's concrete and has a reputation for being soulless and dull. Yet the Berkshire town of Bracknell is the unlikely setting for a battle over who will build Britain's first big town centre shopping development since the tide turned against out-oftown superstores.

Covering more than I million square feet, the £300m Bracknell mall will be one of the UK's largest shopping developments in one of the wealthiest regions of the country. More importantly, it is the biggest sign so far of a switch away from out-oftown developments which destroy city centre shops and threaten the Green Belt, which Princess Square shopping cen-

awaited by local people in the Berkshire new town, who have seen their purpose-built shopping centre decline as custom has moved to adjoining towns such as Reading.

Two rival investors submitted plans to redevelop the centre of Bracknell earlier this year, but when Allied London Properties realised the scale of Legal & General's scheme, it tried to go one better by unveiling a revised

Bracknell cannot support both schemes and at the moment Bracknell council is running with the L&G one. Allied General, which paid £32m for the existing 300,000 sq ft the Government has tried to halt. tre in June, is on the offensive.



The locals do not care who builds the complex; all they know is that they want it soon. before the town "dies". "There are no big stores, no nothing, grumbled Alan Rolph, 38, a selfemployed cleaner who has four children. "We need something or the town is going to die. There's nothing to bring people into it. If you want anything, you go to Reading or Slough. There's no C&A, no Marks and

Sparks, no BHS. If you want to go round to shops for kids clothes you're limited. Bentalls [the only department store] is expensive and you've got no

Margaret Boucher, 59, tossed 2p into the grey-tiled wishing well in Princess Square. "I'm just wishing for general happiness," she said. "There's not much to be joyful about for people round here. If they got more shops -

some decent shops - some-where joyful, happy and light, it might just put a smile on their faces. It makes the chore of shopping a little easier.

You couldn't do your Christmas shopping in Bracknell. It's shabby. Go to Milton Keynes and places like that and they've got wonderful shopping areas. There are a lot of people round here and they deserve some-thing better."

At a glance, Bracknell doesn't look too badly off. It has its fair share of "All Enquiries: Strutt and Parker" posters slapped on boarded-up shops, but it also has its Topshop, Dorothy Perkins, Burton, Boots and Principles. There's a WH Smith, Dixons, Sainsbury, Sketchley and Clarks. The 100,000 residents would

rather shop anywhere than Bracknell. Their biggest grumble is that there is only one department store in the town. Gary Lovett, 29, a barman, shops there by necessity. He

around shopping malls is in-sane," remarked Colin Usher-wood, 25, who has been working in the town for the past year. "What this place needs is night life. There's only one night club - Apres - and it's not

Some interesting Bracknell facts

by Camberley. "We need a Marks and Spencers in town," joints. Where the hell's the Kentucky Fried Chicken?" he said. "And it would be nice to have a Tesco's as well as a His friend, Scotty Plumme Sainsbury's because they are 25, agreed. "It's got no charac both fighting to get the better deals so you could go from one ter." he said. "Bracknell should either be modernised or historic. It's neither. At the moment it's

field. There are no fast-food

to the other." a grey area in between." Two New Zealanders had a different perspective. "Hanging The council will consider Allied London's proposals this time next year. "Allied London felt that the L&G proposal was so big that it would affect their existing investment in town," explained Keith Watson, Bracknell Forest Borough Council's chief

would like to get the two par-ties together and come up with

But there is little chance of that; both parties are determined to jazz up the town single-handed. "Ours is more than shopping mall," rejoined Michael Ingall, Allied London's property director. "L&G's retail is the same size as ours. but as far as I know they are not proposing the other uses. We'll have a theatre, a hotel, a multi-screen cinema and branded

Mr Ingall claims that Allied Loudon's development will be finished sooner than L&G's. "It is difficult to see how they (L&G) can open their shopping centre before 2008. We could be ready within three years."

Stephen Mundy, L&G's property director, said Allied Low don's plans to expand Princes Square were not a real threat. "We're not particularly worried about it. Leading experts have said that obviously our scheme

valuer. "In an ideal world we should go forward," he said. Avoid Milton Keynes if you shop until you drop

Glenda Cooper

Welcome to Milton Keynes, the most expensive place to shop in Britain. The home of concrete cows has topped a list of 97 places around the UK in the latest cost of living survey.
The report, published every six mouths by the Reward Group, the pay consultants, looks at the yearly costs of goods and services as well as the required

amount of income.

The yearly bill for a basket of goods and services in Milton Keynes is £10,189 per year compared to the national av-erage of £9,724. It takes over from Manchester which was named most expensive place to shop six months ago.

Reward looks at the price of various items such as cereal, salad cream, kippers, golf club sub-scriptions, school fees and dry

cleaning.

The cheapest place to shop is Billingham in Teeside where shopping sets you back £9,066. followed by St Austell, Barnsley, Morecambe and Preston. A
spokeswoman for the Shopmonths. The rise has been dri-

By James Harpur

The Flight of the Sparrow

'My lord, although we cannot know The mysteries of the afterlife

The span of time we spend on earth Appears to me to be like this:

Imagine sitting in your hall In winter, feasting with your chiefs

Outside, the wintry night is lashed

And counsellors - your faces glowing From flames that crackle in the hearth.

By winds and driving rain and snow. Suddenly a sparrow darts in Through a door, flits across the hall

And flies out through another one.
Inside, cocooned in light and warmth

It can enjoy a moment's clam Before it vanishes, rejoining The freezing night from which it came.

Such is our journey through this life. But as to what's in store for us

Beyond the doors of birth and death.
We are completely in the dark.

James Harpur's translation from Latin of Bede's description.

of the conversion of King Edwin of Northumbria to Christianity in the 7the century appears in The Monk's Dream (Anvil. £7.95).

He will also be reading it - and other poems - at the Voice Box on the South Bank at 7.30pm this evening. It was Paulinus, first

and stories to convey its essential message...

DAILY POEM

Britain's biggest and smallest bills hop (with yearly total): L Miton Asynes £16,189 2. Cidydon £10,187 3. Skugn £10,139 4. Beckenbarn £10,082 5. Manchester £10,070 2. St. Agging to the 2. St. Agging 192, 234.
3. Represente 19, 241.
5. Represente 19, 250.
(hydroxal, allesage 19, 724.)

which has 180 shops and regularly attracts half a million vis-itors a week, said yesterday that she found the report "surprising. I would never expect us to be the most expensive. I think it is quite alarming to be labelled most expensive when most people think it's wonderful value shopping." The survey is used by firms as

ping Centre, Milton Keynes,

a yardstick for wage increases and reveals that shop prices have risen 3.9 per cent over the past 12 months. Most of this rise took place in the first six months (August 1995 to February 1996)

ven mainly by food prices which went up by 5.9 per cent. However family income requirements (the amount of income needed to maintain living standards including housing costs) have fallen by 0.5 per cent in the last six months, mainly due to

the drop in mortgage rate from 8.39 per cent in August 1995 to 6.93 per cent in August 1996. Greater London is still the place where the family income requirement is highest. At £21,948 a year it is 19 per cent higher than the national average which is £18,451.

The place where you can get by on least money is Merthyr Tydfil, in Wales, where a family can live on £15,527. Barnsley comes in second. The figures also reveal which items have risen in price most in the past ten years. A decade ago entrance to a football match would have cost on average £2.97 against £8.67 today. Joining a golf club cost £178 com-

pared to £405 today. Soap powder has more than doubled, from 90p to £1.97, and bacon has risen from 88p to £1.66. However those who de- 4 layed buying a television in 1985 until this year will be relieved to hear that the price has gone down from £262 to £258.

Having calculated the difference between average incomes and average price of bills, the Scots top the quality of life index, followed by the North and Greater London. The South East has the worst quality of life, with the West Midlands and the South West only marginally better.

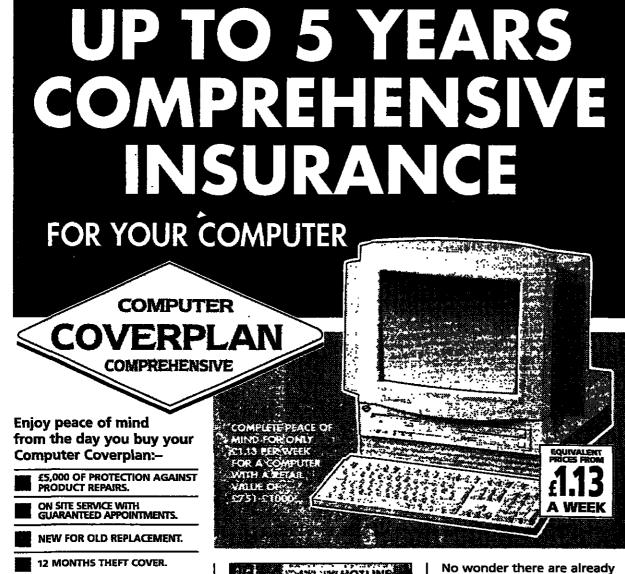
■ The Cost of Living Survey is available from the Reward Group, Reward House, Diamond Way, Stone Business Park, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 OSD price £180.

July's White Paper insisted that initial fees of perhaps £10 to £20 would have to be paid by all assisted people, even those on benefit, who "issue or defend most types of court proceedings. Further minimum contribu-tions might be payable at sub-

cribed legally aided litigants as a "state-funded Rottwellers" was sparked by a question at a conference last month. A delegate asked Mr Streeter whether a woman too poor to pay the application fee who was being challenged for custody of her family should simply tell her ex-

husband to "have the children". The Lord Chancellor's Department confirmed yesterday that Mr Streeter believed that defendants should not have to pay the fee, particularly in family cases, and would be seeking guidance from legal-aid practi-

The change of heart coincides with publication of a Gallup poll for the Law Society in which 56 per cent of the 2,108 respondents said that even a £10 to £20 fee was too much for pensioners and those on social security. Eighty-four per cent of respondents agreed that current legal-aid spending of £1.4bn a year should continue, at least at current levels, because justice was "too important to ration"





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Ministers' retreat over legal aid

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

One of the most controversial features of the Government's planned legal-aid reforms may be dropped following a minis-terial concession that it might be too harsh.

sequent stages in proceedings". But Gary Streeter, parlia-

mentary secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department, revealed at last weekend's Law Society annual conference that the Government was having second thoughts about whether the provision should apply to people who have no choice but to respond to proceedings start-

Archbishop of York, who recounted the story of the sparrow, to Edwin, early Christianity making clever use of pagan motifs The ministerial retreat - Mr Streeter has repeatedly des-

The Mobile Phone Pre-Agreement Checklist

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How long is the notice period?	months
When can I give notice to cancel my contract?	After months
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If I discontinue using my phone within the contract period, how much will I have to pay?	per month left
If I choose to disconnect outside the contract period, what disconnection charge will be made?	
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How long does the standard warranty on my phone last?	years
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What is the minimum monthly charge?	
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What units are my calls charged in?	seconds/minutes
Does this apply to all types of call?	Yes No
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What is the extra charge for itemised billing?	per month

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So, is there an Establishment?



Neil: 'I want to make sure that positions of power go to people of merit'

It was a clash of the old and the new when Peregrine Worsthorne and Andrew Neil locked horns over the state of modern Britain

Marianne Macdonald

It was a fight over the very heart of Britain: the Establishment. But, as these highlights from their argument on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme yesterday morning show, Andrew Neil, former editor of *The Sunday Times*,



and Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, former editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, differed in their perception of its usefulness – and almost everything else.

John Humphrys: Does the Establishment really exist?

Andrew Neil: I think the Establishment does exist. It's not as omnipresent as when you and I were wee lads but it's still around, it still controls a lot of levers of power.

The Economist recently published a table of the top 100 positions in Britain, which it had done 30 years before, and Oxbridge and public schools were as dominant as ever.

JH: Weren't you a member of the Establishment as editor of The Sunday Times?

AN: We were outside the Establishment but we were in great danger of being seduced into joining the Establishment. We managed to avoid that seduction.

Peregrine Worsthorne: I think that's a nonsensical theory. Andrew Neil and Rupert Murdoch have a conspiracy theory that members of what we call the Establishment are running the country which is not wholly different, not wholly more sensible, than the one Hitler had that the Jews were running Germany

The Neil position is that anybody who comes from what he regards as the old governing class is a member of the Establishment and must be eliminated for the health of Britain, because until they are got out of the bloodstream of this country it will go to rack and

This has had the effect of demoralising a whole stratum of society. It's eliminating them from acting in a way which enables them to do any good. Because whatever good these positions for historical reasons do, you have the Murdoch press trying to smear them, with the result that most institutions are now demoralised with the consequences for all

These two miserable men
[Neil and Murdoch] have done
British public life enormous
harm.

AN: I'm not miserable at all, though I've now had Nazis and Jews and elimination thrown at me in that little tirade which I managed to stay awake through I don't care what



anybody's background is, all I want to make sure is that positions of power go to people of merit, be they from Eton or Wigan Comprehensive.

It's undeniable still that so

It's undeniable still that so many positions in British society are held as a result of privilege, not as a result of merit, effort and hard work, and so there is so much wasted talent in Britain still.

We have bright people we do not exploit and get into the top positions. The more we get rid of people with funny names and silly titles the better Britain has done, so we're moving in the right direction but there's still a long way to go yet.

standards of public life, in Parliament for example, have enormously improved as a result of his efforts he is living in absolute cloud-cuckoo-land.

There is a total lack of

PW: If Mr Neil thinks

realism in what he's been up to in destroying institutions in this country, it absolutely amazes and shocks me.

JH: Weren't we enailed to know the truth about the Royal marriage [the Sunday Times printed the first extracts of Diana: Her True Story]?

PW: I'm not going to get into an argument about what we're entitled to know. Anybody knows that many families go through difficulties.

If you have an extraordinarily powerful institution run by Andrew Neil whose main interest is in disparaging, destroying, trying to demoralise these institutions because he believes them to have fallen or remained in the hands of a class he disapproves of. No institution, including the

No institution, including the monarchy, can survive this kind of approach. He's been a baleful influence on the life of this country and we're living among the destructive results.

JH: Do you accept any responsibility for demoralising the insti-

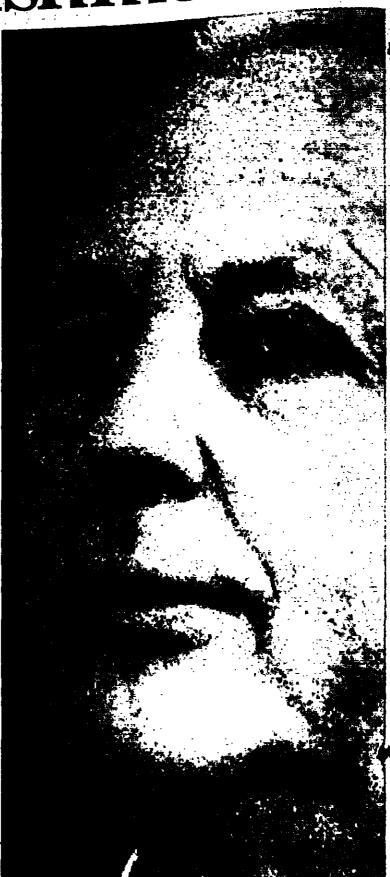
AN: I'm reluctant to say anything, to be honest, because the more Perishing Worthless continues, the more he puts my case. I'd rather let him carry on and let the British people draw their own conclusions.

I take responsibility for judging and testing how well British institutions are serving our country and exposing them. That's my job



as a journalist and the consequence of doing that is that Britain is in better shape than it was before.

Britain is now one of the most successful economies in Europe and the fact that it is not run by people like the other guest this morning shows that the old Establishment is giving way to a new one which actually knows what it's doing."



Worsthorne: 'Institutions are demoralised with consequences for all to see

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target in space-race revival

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The first of the Nasa space craft, the \$200m Mars Global

Surveyor, is due to be launched on 6 November and the other,

the \$150m Mars Pathfinder; on 2 December. It would actually

be Pathfinder which should arrive first - on 4 July 1997. It will

consist of a stationary lander

and a six-wheeled surface rover.

intended to be controlled from

Earth with a time delay of be-

tween six and 41 minutes be-

tween order and response It will

also carry out atmospheric tests.

Previous tests on Mars, by the
Viking lander in the 1970s,

showed no signs of life.
The Global Surveyor is due to

arrive in orbit around Mars in September 1997, and begin

putting together high-resolution

maps of the surface, and of the

weather and climate of the

planet in the following March.

ican announcement is its Mars

96 spacecraft - the first deep-

space mission since the fall of the Soviet Union. Due for launch

next month, the \$450m project

will have both an orbiting craft

and two landing craft, both un-

manned. They will shoot darts

under the surface to investigate

the soil chemistry. It will also in-

vestigate the atmosphere, min-

eral deposits, seismic activity and

av to Mars ended in failure,

when technical failures on the

unmanued craft meant contact

was lost with the Phobos 1 and

Phobos 2 missions in Septem-

ber 1988 and March 1989, just

as they were approaching orbit.

The Soviet Union's last for-

magnetic fields.

Russia's answer to the Amer-

MADERENDEN

A new space race between the US and Russia is in the offing - but this time the object is to reach Mars, rather than the moon, and bring back a sample from its surface.

The US space agency, Nasa, yesterday unveiled detailed plans of the two spacecraft that it will launch in the next six veeks, to land on our closest planetary neighbour next year. But Russia also has advanced plans for a space mission to the planet, with an almost identical imetable for arrival. However, it has had to overcome serious financial problems - and has sought funding from Germany. France, the UK and US, and eastern European countries.

None of the missions,

though, will bring back samples: each is a one-way trip. Return trips are not planned until 2005 at the earliest, while the prohibitive cost of sending a crewed mission – which would run into billions of pounds - means it is not even tentatively planned before 2010. The two-year round trip would be psychologically exhausting; the US astronaut Shannon Lucid was worn down by her unplanned 188-day stay on the Mir space station after shuttle problems extended her

The announcement by Nasa aims to build on the excitement generated by the announcement from a team of US scientists that they had found evidence for past life on Mars in a meteorite. The findings have not been confirmed, but they boosted Nasa's profile when its budget was under attack, and impelled President Bill

Mars the Tribal chief: face of the man who would be king



يمكذا من الأصل

Past perfect: The Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII, photographed as an American Indian chief on a visit to British pla in 1910 (above); and (right) in uniform on a trip to the state in the 1920s



The young face of the future King Edward Vill is among an unusual collection of Royal photographs found hidden n a school cupboard, which were donated to the

ration yesterday. The image of the teenage Prince of Wales, dressed as a chief of the Blackfoot tribe, is in an album of 100 pictures taken by Canadian photographer Howard was presented to Bircham Primary School, Norfolk, by Queen Mary in 1945. The school is five miles from the royal family's

Sandringham estate. Most of the prints are of members of the royal family meeting officers on the front during the First **World War and visiting** Victoria, British Columbia

soldiers in the mud of Flanders

Queen Mary also gave the school a wooden curio cabinet to display the album and other gifts. The have been put in the back of the cabinet after teachers decided that some of the war pictures were too disturbing for young children. For decades the ilbum, entitled Those Glorious Years, was left to gather dust.

Three years ago it was rediscovered by former acting head teacher Ann Brown, who sent the pictures to Norwich Museum for safe-keeping

The school, which has just 29 pupils, yesterday donated the album to the Royal Commonwealth Society photographic

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news



The unemployment puzzle: The headline figures continue to be excellent but other statistics tell a different story. While ministers could ish in the story. While ministers say a job is the best welfare, many people have found the search fruitless and given up

Good news on jobs conceals a painful truth

DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

The number of people claiming unemployment benefit fell last month to its lowest level for more than five years. The drop of 35,600 was the biggest for nearly two years, signalling that the economy's faster growth rate is creating more jobs.

The recovery is also feeding through to people's pockets. Growth in average earnings rose to 4 per cent in July and August, the highest wages growth since mid-1994.

If unemployment continues falling at its current pace, the Conservatives will go to the polls with the headline jobless total below 2 million for the first time since early 1991. Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said: "Competitive Britain is leading the way for job creation in Europe."

The British unemployment rate is one of the lowest in Europe and has been falling for nearly four years. Some forecasters think it will fall below 1.5 million later next year, which

would be the lowest since 1980. This performance is considered by the Tories to be one of the jewels in their economic crown and the reward for the deregulation of the UK labour

Critics challenge this tri-

ment benefit claimant (000°s)

umphalism by pointing to several flaws in the British jobs record. One is simply that the headline count, the number of people claiming unemployment benefit, is flawed by the exclusion of many people who are ineligible for it. Unemployment on the international definition - those actively seeking and available to work - is higher, and fell less than the headline total

Even on the broader definition, though, unemployment had fallen to 2.3 million by the spring from a late-1992 peak of just under 3 million. Charge number two from the critics is that many people are so discouraged by the futile hunt for jobs that they have stopped looking. The evidence for this depends on which figures are used. On some counts employment has risen since 1992 by less

than unemployment has fallen. Yet the most comprehensive measure paints a reasonably bright picture of job creation during the past four years. And the notion that most of the increase of around 700,000 has been in part-time jobs for women is not completely borne out by the evidence. The extra employment has been divided about half and half between men and women. A third of the new jobs have been full time two thirds part time.

The charge that does stick is that there is growing inequality in pay. Average earnings in the economy have risen steadily at all levels of income, and by more than inflation. But according to figures published recently by the OECD, there has been a bigger increase in earnings inequality in Britain since the early 1980s than in any other industrial country apart from the US. This is partly due to the in the first half of this year. increase in the number of noearner households, in the poorest 10th of the population.

Despite the gentle criticism of this social divisiveness from the OECD, the Government is sticking to its free-market guns As William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, put it in a recent speech: "A job is the best welfare.

Alarm in the City, page 22



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Low-paid lose as temps create new wealth gap

Yvette Cooper

The dole queue is getting shorter, and new jobs are being cre-ated all the time. Great news for some, but unfortunately the new jobs created, and the new employment prospects people face are deeply divided.

For some, opportunities are growing. But too many people remain trapped in a far more depressing part of the labour market, where economic growth has done little to improve their fortunes.

First the good news. Jobs in professional or managerial elds have gone up by over 300,000 in the last four years. Admittedly a third of them are part time and two-thirds are temporary, contributing to the notion that middle-class job insecurity is increasing. But the reality for those new professional workers is not quite as insecure as the statistics suggest.

For a start, many of those new part-time workers are students trying to get extra cash while they study. And even temporary jobs need not be so bad in the growing fields where professional skills are in high demand.

Take Martin Heaney. Aged

39, he left a job in the property industry to retrain in computers and systems development. Now he moves from contract to contract, placed by computer consultancies such as Elan, the company that found him his current job at HSBC Asset Management.

The fact that the contracts are temporary doesn't bother Mr Heaney in the slightest: "I was heartbroken when I lost my per-manent job, but within a year my salary had more than dou-bled." He likes the transitory nature of the work too: "Contracting suits me. I've had a number of offers of permanent jobs, but I always say no

Mr Heaney does indeed get plenty of job offers. During For them the so-called em-the 10 minutes we spoke, he ployment boom is worlds away.

Tomorrow: The housing market's recovery

took a call from another recruitment agency offering him more work. He has taken risks and worked hard to get the skills that keep him in demand.

But the new jobs and the people who get them are not all as lucky as him. Quite the reverse. Many of those who lack his qualifications (or the opportunity to acquire them) are having a bad time in that other world behind the unemployment statistics.

Look at the other boom area for jobs growth: personal and protective services. Translated that means security guards and care-workers, some of the worst-paid employees in the country. And these new jobs are not even numerous enough to replace the jobs lost by lowskilled workers in manufacturing, construction, and clerical work. So for those without qualifications, job opportunities

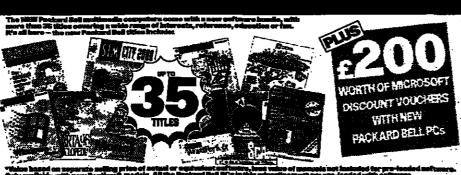
are contracting not expanding. Even worse, as LSE economist Paul Gregg points out, many of the people in tempo-rary, low-paid jobs, cycle in and out of unemployment, rather than moving on to bet-ter jobs. An astonishing 52 per cent of the new unemployment claims last year had been off the dole for less than a year before finding themselves out of work again; 12 per cent of them were back on the dole after less than

four weeks in work. And those that do sign off for good - and contribute to those falling unemployment figures do not necessarily move into work. Much of the fall in the unemployment rate - particularly for the over 35s - is accounted for by people giving up and leaving the labour market al-

together. The Nineties labour market is becoming more and more unequal. Although many are better off than ever before, for others, employment prospects are becoming ever more grim.

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MI6 supplied arms to Argentine navy

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

INDEPENDENT

The pride of the Argentinian navy, including its flagship, is only able to operate because of spare parts provided as part of an operation by Britain's Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, in flagrant breach of the embargo on British military sales to Argentina introduced after the Falklands War.

Two British-built Type-42 destroyers, including the flag-ship, Hercules, and four Mekoclass frigates, built in Germany but powered by Rolls-Royce Tyne engines, would be unable to operate now without spare parts made in the United States. They are copies of original Rolls components obtained illegally as part of the MI6 operation, codenamed Tigre.

The revelations are embarrassing for the British Government. Two ministers, Ian Lang and Malcolm Rifkind, have criticised the Labour party for selling the ships to Argentina in the 1970s. Now, it appears, MI6 kept the Argentine navy afloat after the Falklands war, even though Argentine claims to the Falklands - a potential casus belli - have not been

the man at the centre of the affair is Clive Russell, MI6's man in Argentina in 1987 when the Argentine navy was running out of spare parts for the Rolls-Royce engines powering the British ships it ordered in 1970. Unable to get the new parts they needed to make accurate copies any other way, they approached Mr Russell at the Naval Club in

Buenos Aires.
Mr Russell, a former Royal
Navy officer who had built up business contacts in Argentina immediately contacted his Mi6 controller who encouraged him to help the Argentines as a means of gaining access to the centre of the Argentine militaryindustrial complex, which he did. The case has remarkable similarities to the Matrix Churchill affair, in which businessmen working for MI6 and believing they were immune from prosecution were prosecuted by other Government

Mr Russell became concerned that, in his words, MI6 were encouraging me to break the law in order to have, in their view, the greater benefit of precise information". He continued: "They would go to any lengths in order to satisfy their

He decided to reveal his story because "the present government has made a mockery of democracy and they have be-trayed the men and women who sailed from here to die and be wounded in the Falkland

Islands war". MI6's zeal to obtain the most precise information about Argentina's armed forces is understandable, as it was widely blamed for the failure to predict the invasion of the Falklands in 1982.

Mr Russell was approached by a senior Argentine admiral, Edgardo Segura, and asked for help in getting the spare parts. He was asked to spend 10 days in Puerto Belgrano, a secret naval and air base, assessing the state of the navy's engines and the maritime air strike force of Super Etendards. This gave him "grade A" intelligence.

Because of the embargo on military exports from Britain to Argentina, a firm called Comptine Technology was set up in New York state to copy the key parts obtained by divers means from around the world for a fee of \$6m. Some were stolen from Rolls-Royce in Britain. Mr Russell became con-

cerned that the re-equipment of the Argentine navy was going

information MI6 was defying Parliament, becoming "an agency out of control".

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He therefore tried to interrupt operation Tigre, throwing one key component – an A63 bearing - into the Hudson river. Its disappearance was the subject of extensive correspondence between Admiral Segura and his colleagues.

The fact that the Argentine navy's best ships are still operating suggests that it did not sabotage the programme,

Eventually the Argentines became suspicious. Mr Russell was subsequently attacked in Buenos Aires and badly beaten up. They severely damaged my spine and did other most unpleasant things that I suppose I'd rather not talk about." He left Buenos Aires in a wheelchair and did not return to Argentina until he helped make tonight's film.

In 1991 MI6 told him his intelligence-gathering services were no longer needed, but operation Tigre continues. "I feel terribly let down by MI6," Mr Russell said. "One is put in a position of considerable danger under the pretext of patriotism and then ... MI6, to all intents



and then ... MI6, to all intents and purposes, just wash their Crying out: Noa Ben Artzi, granddaughter of the assassinated Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, weeping at her army Photograph: AP graduation near Jerusalem as her commander quoted from her speech at her grandfather's funeral

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There's a great deal going on

The idea, said Yves-Thibault de algny, economic commissioner. is to ensure budgetary stability is maintained after the first group of member states join the

Netanyahu widens rift with forces

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

Distrust between the Israeli armed forces and Benjamin Netanyahu has reached a new peak as officers complain that their advice on relations with the Palestinians is ignored whenever it conflicts with the political platform of the Prime Minister.

Revelations about the anger in the defence establishment, including the Shin Bet security service, comes in an interview with Professor Ze'Ev Ma'oz, of a Tel Aviv University think-tank, in the daily Haaretz which coolly discusses the prospects for a military putsch. He says a coup

by the army "in order to change the policy could be attractive". The gap between Mr Net-anyahu and the armed forces has

deepened since his decision to open the tunnel under the old city of Jerusalem which led to violence in which 15 Israelis and 60 Palestinians died. "I know the defence establishment sent messages to the Prime Minister that an intifada [Palestinian uprising] is brewing here and Arafat will not be able to con-trol it," said Professor Ma'oz of

the Centre for Strategic Studies. Mr Netanyahu and the Israeli right has always seen the army high command and the heads of the intelligence agencies as part

of the Labour establishment. But Mr Netanyahu is accused of ignoring the Shin Bet whenever its assessments differ from his own preconceptions. In partic-

ular the Prime Minister apparently continued to believe that Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, has covertly aided groups

reports said the opposite.

"The system did not supply him with reports that suited his [Mr Netanyahu's] expectations." said the professor. "That is why he decided to focus, during critical decision-making periods, on the people closest to him in his office, whose security experience is rather slim. As a result, the Prime Minister believed he could delay as long as he wanted on the partial withdrawal of Israeli forces from Hebron without pressure building up among the Palestinians. The defence establishment

riority emphasised, and the

Arabs will be willing to come to

an agreement. This has been

appears appalled that Mr Netcarrying out suicide-bomb atanyahu believes his own campaign rhetoric to the effect that tacks although his intelligence the previous government was too soft, and raised the expectations of Palestinians and Arabs alike. His own argument has always been that few concessions should be made, Israel's military supe-

contradicted by events of the past tew months. The talk of a coup in Israel

is in large part probably an attempt by Professor Ma'oz and the officers to dramatise their discontent with Mr Netanyahu and his policies. The military establishment also feels it must fight off marginalisation; Mr Netanyahu removed senior officers from negotiations with the Palestinians.

Three former generals in the cabinet- Ariel Sharon, Rafael Eitan and Yitzhak Mordechai - are exempted from criticism in what is is evidently an attempt to isolate the Prime Minister from his military colleagues.

EC sets rules on stability fund

The legal apparatus for the single currency began to take shape yesterday when the Eu-ropean Commission proposed a series of legally binding rules and sanctions to keep prospective members of the new Euro zone în line.

Under the proposed laws, based on existing agreements between Europe's finance ministers, the Commission would assume wide-ranging powers to survey tax and public spending in member states, with a view to ensuring countries keep within public-deficit rules.

Ministers of member states. meeting as the European Council, would then have power to impose sanctions if the Commission recommends that a country is stepping out of line.
Under the proposed law a country would be warned that

its fiscal policy was unsatisfac-tory, and would then have 10 months to put it straight. The maximum fine the country would face would be 0.5 per cent. of gross domestic product.

Although the substance of the proposed laws has already been widely aired, publication of the draft legal texts is likely to set the critics of economic and monetary union on edge. The regulations are the latest evidence that the momentum behind the single currency is building fast.

Furthermore, the regulations will stir new concern in Britain that the single currency will inevitably lead to major diminution in the sovereign powers of member states to decide their own public spending.

The Commission's proposals will primarily affect those countries which do not join the sin-gle currency in the first phase. single currency.

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Expensive mud flies in **US Senate** campaigns

DAVID USBORNE Summit, New Jersey

In New Jersey, the agonisings of Bob Dole over how nasty he should get with Bill Clinton seem almost quaint. Nothing Mr Dole might attempt is likely to match the sheer beastliness of the Senate race under way here.

Waged almost entirely on the television airwaves, it is a match-up between a Democrat member of the House of Representatives (and recent boyfriend of Bianca Jagger), Bob Torricelli, and a Republican House member, Dick Zimmer, Each is spending millions - mostly on advertisements denigrating the other.

Indeed, the New Jersey Senate race is on course to become the most expensive in the country. For that reason, and also because of the quantity of mud involved, it is attracting wide national attention. But with Mr Torricelli ahead in polls by only a whisker, it may also prove crucial to the Democratic Party's hopes of retaking the Senate from the Republicans.

The fiercest attacks have come from Mr Zimmer. He has accused his opponent variously of fund-raising at the home of convicted mobster to assisting a fugitive. In turn, Mr Torricelli, 45, has accused Mr Zimmer, 52, of taking cash from a man linked to the Las Vegas mob and of dodging property taxes.

"It's so damn dirty, people are tun-ing out," notes David Rebovich, a political scientist at Rider University. 'They've accused each other of being income tax evaders, influence pedlars and of being affiliated with the Maña. What are voters supposed to think? One of them is going to be our senator.

Some of the voters indeed seem distressed. "It bothers me," says Bob MacLaughlin, a retired computer systems designer and a resident of Summit, a mostly Republican sub-urban enclave west of New York City. "The campaign is all 'you did, I did' and it gets really hard to see through the negativity to understand what is really happening." He is angered by Mr Zimmer's tactics especially and, though he is a registered Republi-can, will vote for Mr Torricelli.

Mr Zimmer attracted particular criticism for one television slot which featured a fake news broadcast with the news reader listing the various Mr Torricelli "scandals" as if they were genuine news stories. The Star Ledger newspaper of Newark decried the commercial as "an abomination".

On policy, the discourse has barely been more elevated. Mr Zimmer is trying to brand Mr Torricelli with the "L" word - liberal. This week his campaign will even launch a page on the World Wide Web about Mr Torricelli's alleged liberal record.

Mr Torricelli has meanwhile attempted to describe Mr Zimmer as a poodle of the unpopular House neaker, Newt Gingrich, dedicated to slashing public assistance programmes like social security and Medicare. In truth, both candidates are moderates in their own parties. Mr Zimmer favours abortion rights for women, for instance, and Mr Torricelli is harsh on immigration issues.

Reflecting the wider significance of the contest, the Clinton campaign has promised to bring the President to Torricelli's side at rallies next week. Clinton is well ahead of Dole in the state, and his presence might help tip the Senate race to Torricelli.

The notion that the Senate might return to the Democrats is looking less far-fetched than a few weeks ago. With the balance 53 to 47 in the Republicans' favour, the Democrats are hoping to pick off three or four sitting Republicans. But it is critical that Mr Torricelli holds on here.



Japanese poll war moves to TV screen

Tokyo - Two men, their faces hidden by protective masks, are practising kendo, the traditional Japanese sport of fencing with wooden swords.

Swirls of smoke and occasional inexplicable bursts of flame obscure the action on the television screen but over the noise of the fighting we hear a nasal and naggingly familiar voice. "I think that Japan lacks dreams. I want to make Japan into a country in which those who strive can be happy." The epic battle is soon over and the victor removes his mask to reveal the features of Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister. He looks tired,

but determined. "This," he says, "is

the new Liberal Democratic Party."

In most countries, the idea of a party political broadcast in which a government leader beats his opponent into submission would be eyebrow-raising and in Japan it is nothing less than extraordinary. Its political culture is comically conservative: campaigning candidates still don white gloves when delivering speeches, and the standard canvassing technique is to drive around New power for the parties has forced politicians to turn to a previously neglected medium, writes Richard Lloyd Parry

van repeating a single phrase: "Please vote for me."

But Sunday's election, the twentieth since the Second World War, is unlike any others: it is a measure of the panic and confusion it is causing politicians that they are, for the first time, devoting lots of money and energy to television. Until the 1980s. they paid little mind to television, because it had little influence on elections; politics was a local affair in which a candidate's affiliation mattered far less than his reputation within his constituency and the efficiency

of his canvassers This changed in 1993, when the Liberal Democrats (LDP) lost their 38-year ascendancy to a coalition of reform-minded parties whose one big achievement in its brief tenure was to reform the electoral system. On Sunday voters will mark two ballots. The first will be for an individual can-

the constituency in a loud-speaker didate in a local constituency, a is that Mr Hashimoto's kendo match first-past-the-post system filling 300 of the 500 seats in the lower house of the Diet. The second cross will go alongside the name of a party, and

> dividual party.
>
> The idea was to encourage policy debate and direct competition between the parties, but it has failed. The few big campaign promises - a pledge by the opposition Shinshin-to (New Reform Party), for instance,

to cut taxes by 50 per cent - are dis-

mally vague, and the political vacu-

from these votes the rest of the seats

will be divided proportionally. For the first time, politicians have to stake

their futures on the appeal of an in-

um which this leaves is eagerly filled by advertising.

Apart from official slots on NHK, the state broadcasting network, the parties are not allowed to make any mention of the election in their television commercials: the pretence

is a party promotion, unconnected with the poll. But no one who watches it can be in any doubt about the inferred identity of the masked opponent whom he fells: Ichiro Oza-wa, the leader of Shinshinto, Mr Hashimoto's former friend and now his rival.

Broadcasting rules forbid "negative campaigning" but the media campaigns of the two parties contain numerous little digs at one another. The buzzword of Mr Hashimoto's commercials is yume, which means dreams, but also has suggestions of fantasy. "Let's create a country in which yume can be fufilled," he gushes. "Shinshinto does not propose the politics of yume," runs an oppo-

The LDP is lucky in Mr Hashimoto, a tough, confident politician who umely happens to be a kendo

charismatic performer (a fellow politician once said he resembled "a toad which has just swallowed something bitter"), makes few appearances in his party's media campaign. Instead, it has opted for metaphor: its main television advertisement depicts vegetables in a juice-maker, representing the squeeze the government threatens to put on voters

with a proposed ax increase. Neither side will say what it is spending on advertising, although it is rumoured to be £23m for Shinshinto and half that for the LDP, which is concentrating on the "ground battle", the old-fashioned local campaigns run by individual candidates in the constituencies, where the party still enjoys solid support. "An election is a war," said the LDP's public-relations chief, Katsumi Kishimoto. "You have to decide where you are going to concentrate your forces, and for us the group war is the decisive one.

■ Polls suggest the LDP will come close to recapturing a slim majority

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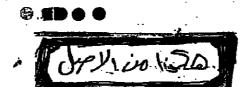
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Tony Barber and Christopher Bellamy

Nato and Russia are moving closer to a "strategic partnership" which may be enshrined in a Nato-Russian charter - a non-aggression and cooperation pact - which will remove Russpansion plans.

nents of a co-operation package, which could include Nato help for Russia outside Europe, have emerged in a series of meetings and conferences. The Russian security supremo Alexander Lebed visited Nato in Brussels last week and there were conferences in Copenhagen and Antalya. A strategic partnership between Nato and Russia -"16 plus one " - will also be dis-cussed during a three-day visit to Russia by William Perry, US Defense Secretary, which began

yesterday. Before he arrived Dr Perry warned Russia that refusal to ratify the Start-2 Treaty would have no effect on Nato's plans to expand to embrace East European countries, and would cost Moscow and Washington billions of dollars. Last week, the former Russian foreign minister Andrei Kozyrev stressed the need for constructive dialogue in a speech in Copenhagen.

Rather than have a counterproductive debate about whether or not to have enlargement there should be more time devoted to looking for ways to protect Russian interests. Mr Kozyrev said. "Years have been wasted. By now Russia should have cooperated with Nato ... Nato will expand and the Russian leadership will have to find a pragmatic solution to

"There is a real risk that hardliners in Moscow will present Nato expansion as a humiliation of Russia, not as an achievement. That is because so much time has been wasted in building up a Nato-Russian Treaty. Nevertheless, the general trend towards Nato-Russian co-operation is irreversible."

Co-operation between Nato and Russia is crucial to ensure the implementation of the Start 2 strategic arms treaty, which will reduce superpower nuclear warheads from 6,000 each to fewer than 3,500 each by 2003.

The Russians also want the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty recast to reflect the demise of one of the military blocs that signed it. o currently nas in the military strength of the Commonwealth of Independent States countries - the for-mer Soviet Union. The balance will shift to four to one if East European countries join Nato.

Although there is no draft of a Nato-Russian charter. Nato accepts the principle. Nato does not like the idea of a "non-aggression pact" because that implies Nato might have aggressive designs, and the language could be used as an argument against further Nato

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expansion. It also wants the document to be non-legally bind-ing, because a legally binding one would have to be ratified by the parliaments of all the Nato

countries and Russia.

Such a document would probably be in three parts: a prologue, pledging cooperation and citing laudable aims; a second section pledging consultation on European security issues and possibly the creation of new institutions, and a third

'Nato will have four times its military strength if East Europe countries join'

section pledging cooperation on detailed issues including drugs, nuclear proliferation and joint exercises.

The co-operation could also extend beyond Europe, into central Asia. The prospect was raised when Mr ed visited Brussels last week, it emerged on Saturday. German General Klaus Naumann, the top military officer in Nato's political wing, told the conference in Antalya that he had spent an hour

with Mr Lebed last week. He said Nato would accept "neither vetoes nor conditions" on its enlargement. Although Mr Lebed has publicly attacked Nato's expansion to embrace East European countries, General Naumann said they had discussed a triple package relating to the

It included Nato enlargement; enhancing the Partnership for Peace initiative involving co-operation with those East European countries including Russia which did not wish to join Nato or might not be in the first wave; and a "real strategic partnership with Rus-

General Naumann said if he were the chief of the Russian general staff he would see possible threats to the west, south

In the west, General Naumann said, "we offer them assurance that Nato will remain calm, that there is no risk. In the south we offer co-operation with Nato."

When questioned on how far south this co-operation would go, General Naumann said the discussions had just embraced the "immediate neighhours of Russia as Russia is right now. Nato has no intention of going further south, and has no

Russia prepares to partner Nato Lebed plans Tony Barber and Christopher Bellanny Nato and Russia are moving closer to a "strategic partners and cooperation pact - which will remove Russian objections to Nato's expansion plans. In the past week the components of package, which could include Nato help for Russia or plans and sooperation package, which could include Nato help for Russia pricing Family.

Moscow

The struggle for supremacy within the Kremlin reached a new ferocity last night when Russia's Interior Minister, Anatoly Kulikov, launched a blistering attack on Alexander Lebed, accusing the security chief of plotting a coup, and of trying to establish a Russian version of the French Foreign Legion, whose duties would include political assassinations

In a bizarre side drama, the minister also said security forces in cities across Russia had been placed on heightened alert because of the risk of an attack by Chechen fighters, after earlier hinting that Mr Lebed was planning to use separatist sup-port in his quest for power. It was unclear if the two devel-

opments were connected. The two men have been at each other's throats since shortly after Mr Yeltsin appointed Mr Lebed as the secretary of Russia's Security Council, national security adviser, and special envoy to Chechnya. Their rivalry erupted in public when the ex-Photograph: Reuter paratrooper general demanded and armed conflicts

General Kulikov's dismissal for mishandling the Chechen war. The Interior Minister counterattacked by repeatedly lam-basting Mr Lebed for striking a deal with the Chechens that he considers a sell-out. But yesterday's episode was

extraordinary, coming only a day after Boris Yeltsin called on his entourage to stop bickering. A spokesman for the President, who is preparing for a heart op-eration in mid-November, said he was "extremely worried" by General Kulikov's claims, and had demanded to see details. Mr Lebed denied the claims. saying that he intends to sue the minister for one rouble, adding that "the poor thing has got

everything wrong". General Kulikov accused Mr Lebed of planning to establish a 50,000-strong "Russian Legion", modelled on the French Foreign Legion, which would be under his operational control as the head of the Security Council. Quoting documents which he claimed came from Mr Lebed's entourage, General Kulikov said the legion's goal in-

The general said this included the "liquidation of political and military leaders and the leaders of extremist, terrorist, and separatist movements as well as other organisations whose activities

threaten national security". He also accused Mr Lebed of plotting a "creeping coup", say-ing that he "had made the final decision to proceed in the near future with the use of force, without waiting for the [next]

presidential election". Mr Lebed said it was no secret that he had asked the Interior and Defence Ministries to set up a single brigade of up to 3,500 people in each region so that "there would be some kind of power in the state".

General Kulikov's allegations will be seen as the result of a struggle for control between the head of one of Russia's "power" ministries – the general has 230,000 forces at his disposal - and the head of a revamped Security Council. But they will strike a nerve among liberals who believe that Mr Lebed has

despotic tendencies. It now seems inevitable that one of the two men will have to

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Off the road: recapturing the spirit of Kerouac on Desolation Peak (right)

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Electronic bedbugs put the bite back into Berlusconi

Andrew Gumbel Rome

Silvio Berlusconi is back in the news, thanks to an outbreak of bedbugs. For the past few istically little to attract attention, perhaps because he is going through two separate corruption trials. But this week the Italian

media circus has been all his.

revelation last weekend. The opposition's new headquarters in central Rome, Mr Berlusconi announced gravely to the press, had been invaded by una cimice - literally a bedbug, but in months the former Italian this context the slang for an elecprime minister, now opposition tronic surveillance device. The eader, has done uncharacter- bug, he said, had been discovered behind a radiator, and he believed that confidential meetings attended only by his closest political allies had been picked up and recorded for It all began with a remarkable the last six weeks or so.

Almost instantly, Mr Berluscom's allies began slinging wild accusations at the magistrates and at the government, saying that an Italian Watergate was under way. The government, meanwhile, voiced its strong disapproval, with the Prime Miner, Romano Prodi, calling for an urgent investigation into this "uncivil incident unworthy of a decent country

By yesterday, the govern-ment was promising to reform the security services, and the

media was awash with speculation as to the possible culprit. And yet something did not add up. The bug was an oldfashioned device not used by the security services for years. Checks showed that no magistrate had requested any surveillance, at least not officially. Moreover, Mr Berlusconi told the press before going to the po-lice, obliterating possible fingerprint evidence by handling and waving the bug around. One senior politician, the

Northern League activist and former interior minister Roberto Maroni, accused Mr Berlusconi of a media stunt. Certainly. the tycoon turned politician has been playing the issue for all it is worth.

But Mr Maroni's is not a popular opinion, and most Italian politicians have reacted in the opposite fashion - by insisting that Mr Berlusconi's problem is actually contagious. One minister, Antonio Maccanico, said he was fairly sure he was being

spied on. And Umberto Bossi, leader of the Northern League, claims nine bugs have been found at his headquarters.

The issue taps into every Italian paranoia about the murky activities of the security services and the deeply held conviction dating from the Cold War, that the country is not run by elected politicians but rather by occult, invisible forces.

It is hard to imagine, how-ever, who could benefit by itstening in on Mr Berluscom's

political meetings since their contents are usually leaked to the press. Even Mr Berlusconi self suspect the security services

or other organs of the state. So who is spying on him? Perhans the same organisation that has been putting bombs on trains and planes, blowing up historical buildings and staging attempts to assassinate the Pope for the past 25 years; perhaps nobody at all. Chances are, we



Belgian protest goes on despite justice promise

Katherine Butler Brussels

Belgium's justice minister pledged to reinforce inquiries into the country's child sex and murder scandals yesterday as nationwide protests continued over the sacking of the judge leading investigations.

Seeking to calm the anger generated by the handling of the case, Stefaan De Clerck told a parliamentary committee that a second investigating magistrate would be appointed to the probe.

"Everything is being done to pursue the investigation," he said, adding that 350 people are now working full time on the case sifting through 5,000 videos of child pornography for incriminating evidence.

An outcry followed Monday's high court ruling in which the judge Jean-Marc Connerotte was removed from the case, fuelling suspicions of a political and judicial cover-up. Confidence in the institu-

tions of state has been at best fragile since August when the bodies of four young girls were found buried at houses owned by a convicted rapist, Marc Accusations of bungling and

complicity levelled at the authorities have been led by families of the victims.

The government is bracing itself for more trouble on Sunday when at least 50,000 people are expected to converge on Brussels in support of Mr Connerotte, who was taken off the

attending a function organised by families of the victims. The same judge was re-

moved from the inquiry into the murder of the former deputy Prime Minister Andre Cools when in 1994 he signalled he was on the brink of a major breakthrough. The Belgian newspaper. La Libre Belgique. suggested yesterday that Mr Connerotte may have tracked down evidence linking senior political figures to the Dutroux

Mr De Clerck denied yesterday that he had brought pressure to bear on the families to drop an appeal against the ruling of the country's highest court to remove Mr Connerotte. The decision to abandon their appeal came after a tense meeting with the minister on Tuesday night.

A second day of spontaof emotion in Belgium following the latest developments. Bus drivers in Charleroi and Namur voted for a one-day

strike while 500 steelworkers at a plant near Charleroi, birthplace of Marc Dutroux, stopped work to march past one of his homes in the village. of Marcinelle. Roads near Charleroi airport were blocked on by workers from the Aeronautics factory.

The revelations surrounding the Dutroux affair have, it is believed, served to drive a further wedge between Belgium's already divided linguistic communities, with many Flemings case because of alleged bias in seeking to distance themselves

from the macabre discoveries around Charleroi in Frenchspeaking Wallonia. But the latest wave of discontent has crossed the linguistic divide. Hundreds of students threw eggs and smashed the windows of the law courts in Antwerp, the Flemish capital, while a few miles away in Mechelen demonstrators blocked several of the city's maior roads. In Genk, also in Flanders. Ford workers halted production for a spontaneous

The upheavals caused by the Dutroux affair have attracted intense outside attention, another source of dismay for the Belgians whose profile internationally is that of a placid, conformist and lawabiding people.

Mass protest however is not a newly discovered phenomeneous protests and strikes non. Modern Belgium was again underlined the strength born in 1830 after William of Holland tried to force through unpopular reforms on hostile Belgian subjects.

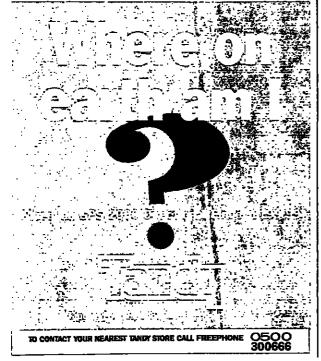
Simmering discontent throughout the winter of 1829 climaxed the following year when in an apparently spontaneous uprising the people of Brussels took to the streets and stormed government buildings. That sparked the revolution

Similarly mass rallies in the summer of 1950 and a national strike forced the abdication of King Leopold III because he was perceived to have been complicit in the Nazi occupation of the country.

independence.



Seeing red: An environmental activist, dressed as a tomato, standing by a wall of cans marked with the bio-hazard sign Hardline Belarus triggers alarm



Phil Reeves Britain and several other European governments have de-

clared their alarm over plans by the hardline President of Belarus to stage a referendum which, if passed, would give him near totalitarian powers, and reverse his country's tentative steps towards democracy. Acting through their ambas-

sadors in Minsk, Britain, Italy, France and Germany have challenged Alexander Lukashenko over the poll which has caused a hostile stand-off between the President and parliament. prompting fears that a showdown is looming. He has responded angrily by accusing the West of meddling in his nation's internal affairs. The exchange is a measure of

proposed referendum which will give him huge powers over his 10 million population, whose legacy from the Soviet empire includes a nuclear arsenal, a large army, and a strong secret police. "We will have a second Haiti in the centre of Europe, Valery Tikhinya, chairman of Constitutional Court,

warned recently. "It will be a dictatorship. Free speech has no more taken root in Belarus than the free market (less than 10 per cent of the economy is privatised), but Mr Lukashenko has tightened his throttle-grip on the media still further as the vote approaches, closing down the only private radio station, and freezing the bank accounts of the already restricted opposition

the growing international con-cern over Mr Lukashenko's newspapers. Belarusans who tune into their state-run television channel face a barrage of propaganda in favour of their president, unsullied by alter-

> Mr Lukashenko, 42, a former collective-farm director, was elected in 1994, after winning support from rural Belarusans who saw him as an old-style party man who would serve as a bulwark against the harsh consequences of switching to a market economy. He has kept most of the old structures intact, beefing up his presidential security service and KGB with recruits from Moscow. But he complains that his efforts to revive his shattered economy have been continuously blocked by the legislature, and the constitutional court, whose rulings

he frequently ignores.

If approved, his referendum would create a second, more powerful, legislative chamber under his control (he would have the right to appoint a third of the members, while the rest would be drawn from officials, appointed by his administration). His own term of office would be extended for seven years. He would chose half the constitutional court and

half the electoral commission. The poll - which he wants to hold on 7 November, the anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution - is the latest battle in a war which he has waged with parliament for months. Last year, he tried to close down the legislature altogether by urging Belarusans to boycott parliamentary elections, destroying its quorum. But the voters scuppered his scheme by turning out. This time, amid rumblings that members are moving to impeach him, parliament has counter-attacked by calling its own referendum on 24 November which proposes to make Belarus a parliamentary

Which side will win is a matter of debate. Although Mr Lukashenko controls almost all the media, and has a strong rump of support in the countryside, his opponents - who complain of being harrassed and bugged by the security services - say his referendum will only pass if he cheats. They also say it is illegal as only the parliament

can set a referendum date. "There are only two ways he can win," said Stanislav Bogdankevich, an opposition leader, "mounting a coup d'etat, or falsifying the poll".

Strikes test **French** unions'

Mary Dejevsky Paris

France's powerful public sector trade unions are staging a oneday strike today that will be closely watched as an indicator of the likely strength of anticovernment protest this winter. For the public, the strike is a chance to rehearse techniques perfected during the disruption of last winter: walking to work, car-sharing or a premature start to the weekend

For the trade unions and the government the day of action is a make-or-break affair. If it is well supported, the protest could escalate to the point where it threatens the survival of the government and the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé. If support is lacklustre, the unions will have to curb their ambitions and the government will quietly proceed with the next stage of its plans to reform the welfare sys-

tem and pare public spendin 🎢 The odds are hard to call Opinion polls show the public anticipates a large measure of disruption this winter – 87 per cent said they expected widespread strikes - and is generally pessimistic about economic prospects. Workers in sectors hardest hit by spending cuts, de-

doctors, are angry and militant The government has played its cards more cannily than last year. It formally lifted the freeze on public sector pay just before the new round of negotiations began and reduced its estimates of job losses. The two main triggers for last year's strikes – the railway restructuring plan and the inclusion of public sector pension arrangements in welfare reform - were both abandoned last year. The railways are now subject to a gentler reform plan; the plan to standardise pension arrange

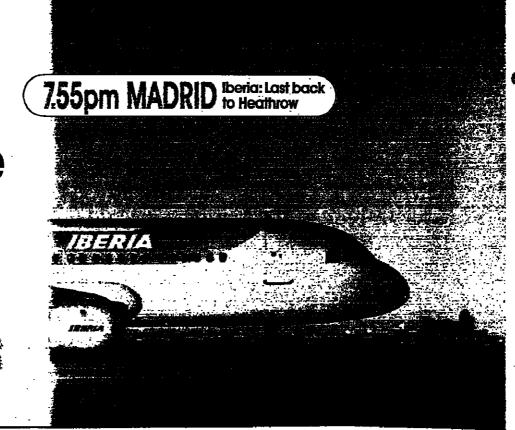
ments has not been revived. The core of the welfare reform has been retained, but its 🦠 initial financial effects impinge mainly on doctors. They are prominent in this year's protests, but their protest alone will not disrupt the country.

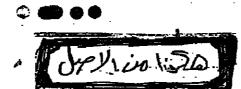
On paper, at least, today's action will affect most of the public sector. The national and regional railways as well as much urban transport have announced their intention to strike. Most social security offices and government services trollers have called a partial strike. Gas and electricity workers are to strike, along with some dockyard employees. Many schools could be closed. and unionised doctors will provide an emergency service only.



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Devil dons

a halo for

d polite thing to say about the mited States, but Washington

s not quite convinced by his ap-

After trailing the conservative

candidate, Arnoldo Aleman,

all year by up to 20 percentage points in the opinion polls, Mr

Ortega, 50, has surged to with-in three points. He now has a

fighting chance of being voted back in as the President of

Nicaragua in Sunday's elec-

tion. If he is, he has promised

a "kinder, gentler" Sandinista

government than the pro-

Moscow regime he led from the

1979 revolution until he was de-

feated by the conservative

this time. Mr Aleman, a bulky

50-year-old former Managua

mayor, heads the Liberal Al-

liance, roughly the same con-

servative coalition which Mrs

Chamorro led to victory in 1990. Mr Aleman is still the

favourite. But the polls suggest

he may not reach the 45 per cent

he needs to avoid a secondound run-off in November.

scoring around 41 per cent,

and Mr Ortega up to 38. Horse-

trading by the smaller parties

would then tilt the balance one

way or another in a head-to-

Mr Ortega has come a long

way from the bespectacled,

Yangui-bashing revolutionary

of 1979. He now wears contact

lenses and has cast off his cow-

hoy shirts with rolled up siceves

shirts that give him an almost-

partly as a result of a mysteri-

ous heart condition which

forces him to visit Cuba twice

a year for check-ups. The San-

dinista anthem, which exhorts

their followers to "fight against

the Yanqui, enemy of humani-

ty" has been "suspended" dur-

ing the campaign. In its place, Beethoven's Ode to Joy with cus-

His oratory is less fiery, too,

saintly appearance.

head vote.

Mrs Chamorro is not running

Violeta Chamorro in 1990.

parent transformation.

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The Sandinista leader turns over a new leaf, but the US is unconvinced

tomised Spanish lyrics is belted out wherever he goes. In an attempt to erode Mr

Aleman's conservative support, Mr Ortega has enlisted some odd bedfellows. His vice-presidential running mate is Juan Manuel Caldera, a 68-year-old cattle rancher whose farms were confiscated by the Sandinistas in the Eighties.

Campaigning along with them are several of the Sandinistas' old arch-enemies, the American-financed Contra guerrillas who fought Sandinista rule in a bloody war throughout the Eighties. One renowned ex-Contra, known as Comandante Mack, who has been described as "a savage" for his human-rights abuses, has been introducing Mr Ortega at campaign railies

The Sandinista leader even tried to recruit a Yanqui into his campaign. Television commercials showed Mr Ortega posing with a US Democratic congressman, Bill Richardson, apparently an attempt to woo moderate voters who favour a

rapprochement with Washington The commercial was later pulled off after Mr Richardson and the US government complained, saying the congressman had not given his permission and did not endorse Mr Ortega's candidacy.

Mr Ortega is campaigning on a platform of peace and greater prosperity. He has pledged not to reinstate the military draft, which was in place during his earlier rule because of the war with the Contras and the war of words with the US.

With 75 per cent of Nic-araguans still living in poverty or extreme poverty - it is the second-poorest nation in the hemisphere after Hafti - food and jobs will be the issues that swing the vote. Mr Aleman has pledged to create 100,000 new for billowing, collarless white jobs in his first year in a nation of 4.2 million people where 54 per cent are either unemployed or have only partial or sporadic

> Street crime, which grew after the end of Contra war and the lifting of the military draft, is another pressing issue. More than 60 violent gangs roam the streets of Managua alone, with names such as the Corpseeaters, the Skinheads and the

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significant shorts

Council of **Europe lets** in Croatia

The Council of Europe admits Croatia next month as its 40th member after a delay over human-rights concerns in the ex-Yugoslav republic. The council, seen as an ante-chamber to the EU. froze Croatia's application in May and set conditions concerning respect of the Dayton peace agreement ending the war in Bosnia. democracy and press freedom. Reuter - Strasbourg

Senators back

Fast Timor Australian senators from across the political spectrum urged their government to end its policy of recognising Indonesian sovereignty over East Timor, the former Portuguese territory it invaded 21 years ago. Robert Milliken – Sydney

Move for new Bosnia force

Nato countries instructed their military officials to start work on a possible new peace force for Bosnia to replace the existing mission vhen its mandate expires on 20 December, an alliance spokesman said.

Taliban defv demand to abandon Kabul

Kabul's Taliban rulers rejected an ultimatum by Ousted government forces to abandon the capital, and said they had no plans to evacuate the city. The acting information minister", Amir Khan Mutaqi, said they had enough forces to defend the city. Rester - Kabul

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340

Jet crashes near cruiser

A Swedish Viggen military jet crashed into the Baltic near a Russian nuclear naval cruiser 75 miles from the Swedish island of Gotland. The fate of the pilot was not known; the Russians said that the cruiser Pyotr Veliky and a patrol boat were scarching for him. The jet was equipped for reconnaissance according to a Swedish statement. Most Viggens are equipped as fighter jets.

AP - Stockholm

Kurdish rebels close in on Arbil

Anti-Saddam rebels of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan moved to tighten the moose around the key northern Iraqi city of Arbil and reverse losses in August to a rival faction backed by Baghdad. Reuter – Barisan Valley

Miss World costume drama

Tim McGirk New Delhi

First they tried to run the chick tens out of town. Now they're after the girls. The same protesters in the south Indian city of Bangalore who recently tried to close down the fast-food are now threatening to sabotage the Miss World pageant.

Sponsors of the contest are taking the threats seriously: the organisers are transplanting the most controversial event in the pageant, in which women slink around in swimming-costumes, out of Bangalore to the beaches of the Seychelles.

Fried-chicken legs and leggy beauties may not appear to share much in common, but for a Bangalore professor of constitutional law, MD Nanjundaswamy, they represent an assault by multi-national companies on Indian values. "The multi-nationals are trying to introduce a meat-and-beer culture in India," the professor, a vegetarian teetotaller, said. He described the pageant as "Rupert Murdoch's occupation of the Indian mind".

The Australian media magnate's satellite television network has for several years now been dumping all the dross of Western soap operas and second-rate films on to India.

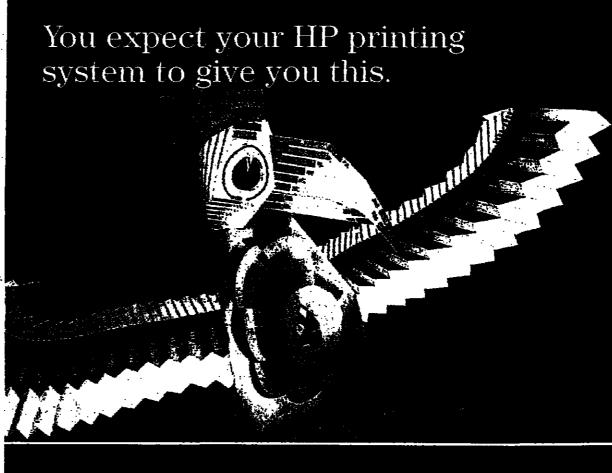
Opposition to the Miss World pageant has united leftists, rightwing Hindus, Muslim militants and feminists in an unlikely alliance. Some have vowed to set themselves on fire if the contest goes ahead. Others, led by Prof Nanjun-

daswamy, have threatened to burn the statium where the con-testants will parade before a pan-el of judges which includes the Briton Eric Morley. Spectators are being charged up to £500 a seat, much more than an Indian labourer earns in a year. Waqas Ahmed, from the Stu-

dents of Islamic Organisations, said the contest will "prove detrimental to our delicate social fabric, which is already under onslaught. The display of mudity is against our social values." India had always shrugged off beauty pageants until last year, when Indians won both the

Miss Universe and the Miss World contests. Then India seemed to wake up to its own attractive women. Newspapers and magazines began to fill up with photographs of middle-class girls aspiring to be super-models, instead of

dentists and accountants. Yet it is likely that the Miss World pageant would have been driven out of Bangalore months ago but for the main organiser, Amitabh Bachchan, who is India's best-loved film star, whom few politicians dare to cross. Still. he has decided to move the show to Seychelles in 1997, a year early, rather than face another bont with the protesters.





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Laura La Plante

If Laura La Plante in old age had not resembled herself in youth so strongly, I should have suspected an impostor. She was charming, friendly and immensely likeable, but no one would have taken her for one of the most popular stars in film history. For she seemed totally unaffected by the experience;

too modest, too forgetful. When David Gill and I arrived at her home in Rancho Mirage, outside Palm Springs, with a film crew for our Hollywood series in 1977. Laura retreated to the kitchen and pleaded not to be interviewed. She knew we'd come to film her husband Irving Asher, producer and silent-era publicist, but she also knew we'd grab something of her if we could. When we realised her reticence was genuine, we relented.

I had tried to chronicle her career during several visits, and while she tried hard to remember, her memory was as bad as she said it was. She could recall exactly what she wore in a picture, but none of the incidents associated with the making of it. But during those visits I grew very fond of her. She had a dry sense of humour, I remember her poring over some photographs with an old friend, the silent actress Bessie Love, trying to remember the names. Eventually she turned to me and

said "Care to take a nap?" She was best-known as a comedienne, and yet her finest performances were in dramatc roles, in two films of 1924 directed by Clarence Brown: Butterfly, in which she played a violin student (which she was in real life) for whose talent her older sister sacrifices her career; and Smouldering Fires, a realis-

tic drama about an autocratic, middle-aged woman who runs a factory (Pauline Frederick) and falls for a young employee, only to find him pursuing her youthful sister (Laura). The sensitivity of the playing transformed the stereotyped story into a minor masterpiece.

Laura La Plante came from poverty-stricken background in St Louis, Missouri. Her father was a dance teacher. After her mother divorced him, she moved with Laura and her younger sister Violet to San Diego, California.

As a teenager, Laura spent summer vacations with a cousin, Mary MacMahon, in Hollywood. Mary spotted a newspaper ad asking for children for moving pictures, and Laura was selected and brought home some money. Her mother, who had lost her job, sent her back

making was a relatively casual affair in 1919, and Laura was able to do just that.

in the holidays.

Mary MacMahon did all she could for Laura. Next door lived a scenario writer who knew the great director George Loane Tucker, and he was asked to meet Laura. Tucker staged a test in the garden, but Laura felt his cameraman had no film in his camera, because all she got were words of encouragement. Tucker advised her to visit a studio and to watch how things were done. Film-

When her cousin moved to an apartment on Gower Street, Laura secured a proper test at the nearby Christie comedy studios. She was noticed by Al Christie and this is Laura's ac-count of the conversation: of his career playing wistful, hay-seed roles in films deeply nos-"How did you get into stock here?' I didn't ...' 'Would you



A sort of Carole Lombard of her day: La Plante's dazzling beauty and pers ality made her Universal's top star (above, in SIIk Stockings, 1927)

like to?" 'Yes." 'Well, as of Monday, you're in stock." ("He explained Laura, "in a

very good mood.") Al Christie cast her in a series based on a newspaper car-toon strip called *Bringing Up* Father. Her first important role was in Charles Ray's The Old Swimmin' Hole (1921). Charles Ray was then nearing the end talgic for a vanishing America.

experiment, being made entirely without subtitles. La Plante's fresh, naturalistic, performance won her notice and she thought stardom was

Instead, she was cast by Fox in a western, Big Town Round-up (1921) with Tom Mix. Westerns, even with Tom Mix, were regarded as the cheap end, one might almost say the rear end, of the industry, and appearing in them brought little attention. This film was something of an Furthermore, she had to ride a

horse. She couldn't ride, but refused to admit it and the experience brought her nothing but terror.

From Fox she went over to Universal, which was a foolish move because they were were famous for their westerns. La Plante was cast in a relentless series of western two-reelers and five-reciers and even a serial, Perils of the Yukon (1922), for which she was expected to do her own stunts, and during which the company were

High Sierras. She never learned to ride properly, and was grate-ful for a brief spell at Goldwyn where she played the prettiest girl in town in Rupert Hughes's The Wallflower (1922).

Her career began to take off when she was selected as a Wampas Baby Star of 1923 (Wampas standing for Western Association of Motion Picture Advertisers). The following year she played with Reginald Denny in a motor-racing comedy

called Sporting Youth. By now she had dyed her light-brown hair blonde, and her dazzling beauty, together with her personality - humorous, mischie-vous, but basically sensible and

kind - brought her tremen-dous popularity. She became

Universal's top star, a sort of Carole Lombard of her day.
While her favourite films were the comedies she made with Reginald Denny, her most celebrated role, was in The Cat and the Canary (1927), a brilliant

parody of Gothic horror directed by the German master Paul Leni.

In 1926 she married William Seiter, who had directed the best of her Denny comedies. After playing Magnoli; in Show Boat (1929) - a siled wersion, later reissued with sound prologue and music and effects - and an appearance if King of Jazz (1930), Laura La Plante and Universal parted

In 1933 she moved to Europe, and in 1934, after an amicable divorce from William Seiter, she married Irving Asher, then in charge of the Warner Bros studios at Teddington. She played in only a handful of the films he produced there, for she was now the mother of two children, Jill

and Tony. When war came, Asher joined the US Army and Laura and the children returned to California. She made a few more appearances on film, played in television and made her last film, Spring Reunion, in

When her son Tony was 16. he was asked what his mosher was doing these days on the said, "she's just a woman." Laura La Plante may have vanished from public view. but she made a final appearance in New York in The Night of 100 Stars in 1985.

Kevin Brownlow

Laura Isabelle La Plante, actress: born St Louis, Missouri 1 November 1904; married 1926 William Seiter (marriage dissolved 1934), 1934 Irving Asher (died 1985; one son, one daughter); died Los Angeles 14

Ono Tozaburo

As every British schoolboy should know, from Shelley's The Masque of Anarchy, written in 1819 and inspired by the Peterloo massacre, poetry and anarchism make good bedfellows. One of the most distinguished representatives of this marriage was the Japanese anarchist poet Ono Toz-aburo, whose life was one of perpetual poetic protest and revolutionary insubordination. attacking both traditional Japanese ways of life and traditional Japanese poetry, chiefly

in the waka or tanka form. It may surprise some to learn that there is a stroom natural anarchist tendency in Oriental culture, but certain elements of anarchism can be found in Lao. Tzu, and in the 18th-century

Japanese thinker Ando Shoeki. During the Meiji Period (1868-1912), the theories of Prince Kropotkin and Mikhail Bakunin were introduced into Japan, along with socialist and communist philosophies. Several Japanese groups were formed, both violent and non-violent Christian. One of my ancestors. Thomas Kirkup, in his History of Socialism (1892), writes that the Tolstoyan anarchist Dr Kotoku. together with his wife and 10 followers, was executed after a secret trial in 1911:

It is believed there was an actual bomb ... but no evidence was forthwholesale nunishments. The whole episode appears to be a blot on the fair fame of Japanese civilisation, which must be regretted by the many

Ono Tozaburo was born in Osaka, an industrial city which at the beginning of the century was in the throes of a violent economic and industrial unheaval, with accompanying social unrest and political agitation. The future anarchist poet of industrial landscapes of total desolation attended middle school, and fortunately part of his early childhood was passed in the lovely temple city

In 1920 he made his way to Tokyo and entered the university. But, like so many of Janan's modern poets and artists, he dropped out after only eight months. There is something in the Japanese artistic temperament that does not take to further education, a rebellious

spirit, a natural anarchy found in many modern works in conflict with accepted notions.

Tozaburo, as if instinctively, gravitated towards the anarchist-socialist groups of the time, fully aware of the dangers lying in wait for those "nails that refuse to be hammered down" at the hands of the authorities. In 1923, he became a contributor to the newly founded.4ka to Kitro ("Red and Black") anarchist magazine. Like most publications of its kind, it was suppressed, and ceased publication in 1924. To take its place, - backgrounds of many of his lat- War collections include Daika-Tozaburo founded his own Dadaist-anarchist ionnnal Dani. Dam which predictably had

The Dada movement in poetry and art was becoming pop-position in his Furuki Sekai no

only one issue.

ular in Japan, but no publisher could be persuaded to issue Toz-aburo's first collection of poems, Hanbun Hiraita Mado ("A Half-Opened Window"), so he published it at his own expense in 1926. He also took the risk of issuing another anarchist magazine, Dando ("Trajectory") which ran for a whole year

(1930-31), in association with his llow anarchist poet Kiyoshi In 1933 he returned to Osaka. The industrial landscapes of Osaka and Osaka Bay form the rational spirit. His post-Pacific er poems. Here in the inter-war hen ("The Ocean's Edge", neriod he became the ac knowledged leader and teacher of younger poets. He gradually shifted to the Marxist-realist

ue ni ("Above the Old World". 1934) and Osaka (1939). He also took up literary criticism with a socialist tendency, with which he was able to exert a major influence. He published successive essays in the magazine Bunka Soshiki ("Organi-sation of Culture", 1940-43) which were collected in Shiron ("Essays on Poetry", 1947). He sought to reject musical quality and replace tanka-type lyricism by a visionary verse founded on a critical and 1947), Hi-nomu Keyak Swallowing Zelkova", 1952), Juyu Fuji ("Heavy Oil Fuji",

1956) and Ikyo ("Strange

Land", 1966).

Sadly, in later years, with the decline of Japanese interest in literature, he became somewhat neglected. He appears in a very few anthologies of modern Japanese poetry, and is missing from our own Penguin Book of Japanese Verse - in so many ways an unsatisfactory compilation. However, he is well represented in my own recently published anthology Burning Giraffes (University of Salzburg Press). Beside is an example of one of my translations of his poems, from Daikai-hen (1947).

- James Kirkup

Ono Tozaburo, poet and anar-chist: born Osaka, Japan 27 July 1903; died Osaka 10 October

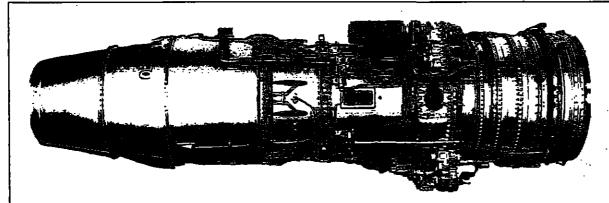
Tomorrow The old reeds are dead And the new shoots are few. andpipers are flocking like clouds across the river mouth. banks when The spring tides cluum up listen to the wind howling over the wastes of heavy industry. Surely something must have gone wrong. Already it is worse than anything I can imagin What I see before me is a ghastly landscape of waste lands The indelible shadows of an horizon truried

P. A. Soloviev

In the Soviet Union it was usual for aircraft and their engines to be designated according to the leader of the design team. P. A. Soloviev remained for many years almost unknown in the Western world, because most of his engines were designated by a simple letter D. from dvigatel ("engine"). Born in 1917, Pavel Alek-

sandrovich Soloviev (pronounced "Solovyov") was from childhood interested in everything mechanical. From high school he entered the Aviation Technological Institute at Rybinsk (today Andropov). He graduated with distinction in 1939, and joined the OKB (experimental construction, or design, bureau) of Arkadiya D. Shvetsov at Perm,

Shvetsov was the first aeroengine designer to set up his own OKB in the Soviet Union. His firstborn, the simple M-11 radial engine of 100hp, remained in production over 40



Solovier's D-30 series I engine; first put into in service in the Tu-134 airliner in 1967, there are still over 1,000 in use around the world

But by the time Soloviev joined there was a need for engines of far greater power for fast fighters and bombers. Soloviev played a leading role in developing the M-82 (redesignated in Shvetsov's honour as

years, more than 130,000 being the ASh-82 in 1941), an air- of the most powerful piston Shvestov as chief constructor of the most powerful piston cooled radial in the 1,500- engine ever to be installed in the Perm OKB. He recognised 2,000hp class. It was one of the most important engines of what Russians call the Great Patriotic War, and over 70,000 of them were built.

In 1946 Soloviev played a leading part in the development

an aircraft, the ASh-2K of 4,700hp. He also worked on many other engines, such as the ASh-21 of 550-700hp, which is still in use in aeroplanes and

helicopters. In 1953 Soloviev succeeded

that, by this time, aircraft requiring high power would use not piston engines but gas turbines. Some piston-engine designers, especially in the Western world, found it hard to learn the very different tech-

nology, with exceedingly complex problems of aerodynamics and combustion and a range of new materials. Soloviev accepted the challenge with He immediately began the

design of the first turbofan to go into service and a turboshaft engine of unprecedented nower for a giant helicopter. Soloviev had studied the writings of Frank Whittle, who had pointed out that the propulsive efficiency of a jet engine would be increased if the airflow through it could be increased and the jet velocity reduced. Accordingly he produced the D-20P, a neat turbofan with a mass flow of 293 pounds per second and take-off thrust of 11,905 pounds. To the astonishment of Western designers, this beat their turbofans into service in the Tu-124 jetliner on 2 October 1962

The turboshaft engine was the D-25V, which delivered

5,500hp at a time when the most powerful helicopter engine in the Western world was a piston engine rated at 1.900hp. Two D-25Vs made possible the Mi-6 helicopter of 1957. Over 800 of these monsters were built, and even today the Western world has no helicopter with anything remotely similar in size

and capability. Having cut his teeth with these two engines. Soloviev went from strength to strength. The D-30 designation was, with typical Russian mentality, used for two completely different families of engines, one (for the Tu-134 jetliner) in the 15,000pound thrust class and the other (for various big jet trans-ports) rated at 24,000-26,500 pounds. To confuse things still further, the derived D-30F6 is a monster fighter engine, with an afterburner, with a combat thrust rating of 41,843

pounds.

was the PS-90, a giant turbofan of high bypass ratio for advanced passenger and cargo transports. A family of PS-90 engines are now flying, in the 35,000lb class. What their designer did not expect is that in today's former Soviet republics they are having to come te with Western engines.

Soloviev gained a professor-ship in 1960, was made a Hero of Soviet Labour in 1966, was appointed a doctor of of technical science in 1973 and a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1981. Also in 1981 he reached the supreme industrual rank of General Constructor. He retained this until he retired in 1989, handing over to Yuri E. Reshetnikov.

Bill Gunston

Pavel Aleksandrovich Soloviev aeroplane engine designer: born 1917; died Perm, Russia 13

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen resource the Raphael Gallernes at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kenungson, London WV. The Duke of Edinburgh, President and Humorary Life bellure of the Rayal Society for the Encouragement of Art., Manufactures and Commerce presents the 1996 Benjamm Franklin Modal at M. James S Palace, as Late Member and Gold Card Holder of the Varies Club of Great Burtan artenuts a celebration branquet at the Branqueting House, Whitehall, London SW 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London London SW 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London SW 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London SW 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London SE 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London SE 170. Princers Royal, Chancellar, London SE 170. Princers and State State Change and Manufacture of the Burde of Tradager at Admirally House, London SW 170. The Duke of Glomester, Patren, Northampton the Announcers of the Burde of Tradager at Admiral Photose, London SW 170. The Burde of Glomester, Patren, Northampton Association for the Burde of Tradager at Admiral Photose, London SW 170. The Burde of Kent Lunches the Jewish National Fund for least's London to Krastland Carden Photose Switch Manufacture and Photose Hearth Club, Ethibaton Royal, London W 1, unreach the pottfart by Burden Royal London W 1, unreach the Surbon Royal London W 1, underso the Ethibaton Royal London W 1, unreach the Burden Withous Royal Benament Street, Lundon W 1 Prince Michael of Kent Junean W 19 Prince W 19 Princ ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

ny Hall Kincinichaei. Changing of the Guard The Hauschold Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Outen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham

esta Contenua Concert at Sympho

Annual concess for Gazette BERTIS, MAR-RIAGES & DEATHS (Birthe, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wed-ding number-service, in Memoriam should be posted to the Gazette Editor. The Independent, JAMES TORROW posted to the 4-bacetic Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Soporte, Canary, Where, Louison E.14 SDL, telephonest to 0171-293 2011 or forced to 0177-293 2040; charges are 16-50 a line (VAI estra), UTBLR Garcite announcements must be submitted in writing (or fazed) and are charged as 210 a line, VAT extra. Please in-clude a daytime telephone number.

Forthcoming marriages Mr M. Sutcliffe

and Miss H. Wallace The engagement is announced bemeen Mark, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Sutcliffe, of Great Broughton, North Yorkshire, and Henriena, daughter of Mr and Mrs lan Wallace, of Edinburgh.

Birthdays

Mr Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich, concert pianist, 56; Mr Harry Carpenter, broadcaster, 71: Mr Sydney Chapman MP, 61: The Earl of Dalnousie, former Governor-General, Rhodesian Federation, 82: Mr Alan Garner, author, 62; Sir Ralph Gibson, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 74; The Right Rev Ronald Goodchild, Assistant Bishop, Exeter, Stc. M Jean Gueguinou, French ambassador, 55; Sir Christopher Harding, chairman, BET, 57; Mrs Ann Jones, tennis player, 58; Lord Kilbracken, author and journalist. 76: Mr Michael Lord MP, 58: Sir Cameron Mackintosh, producer of stage musicals, 50; Mr Arthur Miller, playwright, 81; Mr Bernard Taylor, former chief executive. Glaxo, 61; Sir Simon Tuckey, High Court judge, 55.

Anniversaries

Births: John Wilkes, political retormer and journalist, 1727; Elmor Glyn, novelist, 1864: Baroness Karen

Blixen (Isak Dinesen), author, 1885; Rita Hayworth (Margarita Carmen Cansino), actress, 1918. Deaths: Sir Philip Sidney, poet, soldier and courtier, 1586; Frédéric-François Chopin (Fryderyk Franciszek), composer, 1849; Sidney Joseph Perelman, humorist, 1979. On this day: British and French forces began the Siege of Sebastopol. 1854: a steel-making process was patented by Sir Henry Bessemer, 1855; Al Capone, a boot legger, was sentenced to 11 years in iail for income-tax evasion, 1931; the first nuclear power station in the world was opened at Calder Hall. 1956. Today is the Feast Day of St Austrudis or Austrude, Saints Ethelbert and Ethelred. St Ignatius of Antioch, St John the Dwarf, St Nothelm, St Rule, St Scraphino and The Urwhite Martyrs of Valenciennes.

Lectures Royal Society of Literature: Andrew Davies and Sue Birtwistle, Taking a Plunge with Mr Darcy: adapting classic novels for television?

Dinners

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Mr Malcolm Rifkind QC MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Com-monwealth Affairs, held a dinner vesterday evening at 1 Carlton Gar-dens. London SW1, in honour of Senor Abel Matutes Juan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain.

Police can be liable under Race Discrimination Act

for the Metropolis: Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Otton. Lord Justice Hutchison) 9 October 1996

Police officers provided services. to the public within the meaning of section 20(2)(g) of the Race Relations Act 1976 and acted unlawfully if in so doing they discriminated against a person on the grounds of race. But a chief officer of police was not vicariously liable under the Act for the discriminatory

actions of his subordinates. The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the Met-ropolitan Police Commissioner against the decision of Judge Harris, sitting in Central London County Court on 21 December 1995, refusing to strike out parts of the statement of claim of the plaintiff, Zeinab

The action arose out of an occurrence on 17 July 1994. The plaintiff, a refugee from Somalia then aged 17, claimed she and her 10-year-old cousin

were attacked near their home by some white teenagers, who set a dog on her and injured

her. The police officers who responded to her 999 call, instead of helping her and seeking to detain her attackers, arrested, detained and charged her with affray, common assault and causing unnecessary suffering to a dog. She was released on bail the same day. On 12 January 1995 she appeared to answer the charges and, no evidence being offered, was acquitted.

In her claim against the Commissioner for damages, including aggravated and exemplary damages, for false imprisonment, assault and battery and malicious prosecution, the plaintiff included an allegation that the officers' conduct amounted to unlawful racial discrimination. It was this last allegation which the Commis-

sioner sought to strike out. Section 20 of the 1976 Act provided:

LAW REPORT

17 October 1996

(1) It is unlawful for any person concerned with the provision . . . of goods, facilities or services to the public or a section of the public to discriminate against a person who seeks to obtain or use those goods, facilities or services . . .

(2) The following are examples of the incilities and services mentioned in subsection (1): . . . (g) the services of any profession or trade, or any local or other public authority.

Section 53 provided: (1) Except as provided by this Act no proceedings, whether civil or criminal, shall lie against any person in respect of an act by reason that then act is unlawful by virtue of a provision of this Act.

It was contended for the Commissioner that section 20 did not apply to police officers performing the duties of their office, since they were not providing a service; and that even if it did, the Commissioner himself could not be vicariously liable for breaches of section 20 by his constables. Robert Seabrook QC and Duncan

Macleod (Metropolitan Police Solicitor) for the Commissioner: Andrew Nicol QC and Heather Williams (Deighton Guedalla) for the plaintiff.

Lord Justice Hutchison said that, prima facie, section 20 was wide enough to apply to at least some of the acts undertaken by police officers in the performance of the duties of their office. The crucial words were "any person concerned with the provision (for payment or not)

of ... services to the public". These words were entirely apt to cover those parts of a police officer's duties involving assistance to or protection of members of the public. There was nothing in the examples in section 20(2) that expressly or impliedly excluded police officers from the amout of section 20(1). In his Lordship's view they fell within paragraph (g). There was no reason why a person performing a public duty might not also be providing a service.

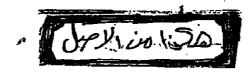
The plaintiff's claim was that she sought the service of protection and because of her race was denied the protection others would have been and forded. It seemed that was U less the provision of a service than was the giving of directions or other information to a member of the public who sought

It followed that a claim of racial discrimination could clearly be made against an individual police officer by a member of the public.

As to vicarious liability, however, the prohibition in section 53(1) applied to both types of claim and identity of parties and was clearly expressed. Ordinary vicarious liability apart from the act did not suffice to found a claim; it was only to the extent that the Act permitted vicarious liability claims that they could be maintained.

It did not do so in this case and the claim under section 20 against the Commissioner mag be struck out.

Paul Magrath, Barrister



CET

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Ban all handguns now. There's nothing to lose

eath in Dunblane created an emergency that only a coming the context of the Great War - its in the context of the Great War - its plete ban on the private ownship of handguns can begin to dissipate. Lord Cullen's inquiry served to extend the crisis - it may even have intensified it as, during the past weeks, from the back branches have dropped some odd fowl - shootists more wedded to their pistols than any notion of propriety or public safety, and Warren Hawksley MP. Yesterday Lord Cullen proposed a half-measure, out of a touching anxiety for the economic well being of the gun industry. His anxiety, however, was utterly beside the point. The Government, also, has missed the point. The ban on private holding of handguns should be complete and exceptionless. Ministers seemed yesterday to think they deserved applause for going beyond Culien, showing only how far they are still afflicted by post-Dunblane myopia. The course is now clear: a complete ban. The sooner it is effected the better.

A complete ban would be a drastic extension of state power into private berty - that is true. But there is no nortage of historical precedent for democratic governments responding to threat by far-reaching legislation, increasing surveillance and inspection deep in society's innards. Indeed, there are many more worrying instances than the one we propose. The first Defence of the Realm Act was passed

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in the context of the Great War - its extension of government's sphere was justified by the emergency. It wanted to protect a way of life. So it is with handgun control. Banning private ownership of lethal weaponry should be aimed at restoring a status quo in which a less twitchy and frightened society has less need of that apparatus of state power symbolised by the armed police officer. Fewer guns would mean less government. There is nothing ideological about

such a ban: it is a practical response in special circumstance. Just as there is no logic of history pushing the boundaries of the state ever forward (something the hysterics of the new right like to frighten themselves with), so there is no grand logic driving violent crime upwards. We can and must try to make this country more peaceful. It is historically naïve to say British society is "naturally" pacific. What is true is that since the 17th century government has had a pretty effective monopoly on firepower: when Georgians of Victorians rioted they threw stones because all the muskets were secure inside army barracks. By the 20th century that tradition had bedded down into a widespread popular revulsion at the ownership and handling of destructive weapons. Guns are unBritish. That sentiment is, of course, flawed: there are large numbers of illegally held guns to be stored at clubs where, in pri-



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANABY WHARF LONDON EM 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-298 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

weapons. And the tradition is threatened, by boundaries open to trade with countries with laxer rules. But being anti-gun remains part of this country's social ecology. This is a moment to affirm that aspiration of civic peace.

There are, yes, important points to consider when it comes to proscription arguments that even the tears of grieving parents cannot dissolve. One of the strongest is John Stuart Mill's plea for liberty: action should remain free up to the point where it harms others. On that basis, the Government might seek to rest its case for allowing

vacy, shooting and the handling of guns ought to threaten no one but their owners. But whatever merit it has in theory, it fails the test of practice. How secure will those armouries be? How are the weapons to be transported for competitive shooting? A blanket ban is simpler to administer, and is therefore certain to be more effective.

What is lost thereby? The pleasure of a handful of enthusiasts only. Though sport has in recent years moved to the centre of our culture as a source of entertainment and inspiration for many, it must not become a fetish. The loss of British participation hardly going to dent the national

And what is gained? To ban handguns is to show, for once, that this country's Parliament is not entirely the creature of special interests and paid persuaders. There is nothing new about lobbying for legislative favour. What is new is the shamelessness with which lobbyists parade their parliamentary agents, the loudness with which they squeal their sectional case. In the terrible sadness of Dunblane something wonderful was born. The symbol of the snowdrop now adorns a movement of moral force that has shamed even the tired and discredited ministers of the present government into doing very nearly the right thing.

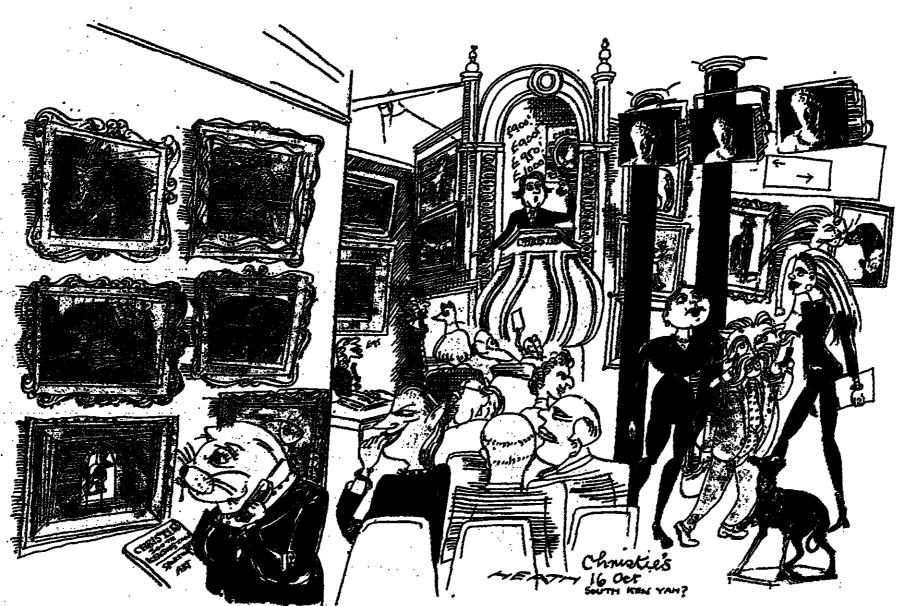
If ever an event proved the shallow self-regard of that Eighties formulation there is no such thing as society", it was the human response to the death of those children and their teacher in Dunblane. From it, around a core of bereaved parents, there has grown a voluntary organisation whose voice now commands the political centre stage. There are those who continue to resist a blanket ban on handguns, sincerely worried by nanny having to take things away in case we are tempted to misuse them. They fear this means infantilisation. Let them stand a moment alongside those parents in Snowdrop and observe their calm and Britain's most powerful institutions.

at the Olympics in pistol shooting is adult demeanour. The parents' arguments have won not only because they are right, but because in their capacity to translate their grief into practical democratic reform, they represent recuperative human spirit at its awesome and inspiring best.

Little tiddlers? No, whoppers

Astonishing. Andrew Neil, some-time editor of the national newspaper The Sunday Times, thinks he's a little guy tilting against the powerful Establishment. Even more amazing, he and Peregrine Worsthorne believe Rupert Murdoch has been bashing the old elite in the interests of the little guy, too. As if Murdoch's media empire, and the editors that dance within it, have not long had more influence than any individual inside Buckingham Palace, Downing Street, Whitehall or the clite universities and public schools. Rupert Murdoch and Andrew Neil are ace players of the oldest Establishment game in the book: using power to sustain their own wealth and privileges. They have never done anything to subvert Britain's most powerful institutions. They are one of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -



Michael Heath's Britain: Christie's Auction House - site of the Camilla Parker-Bowles sale

works well just as it is Sir. David Lister ("Better Mrs B than a bunch of luvvies", 15

Arts Council

October) questions the accountability of the arm's-length principle of arts funding and lays the blame for failure to resoive freeding crises in the arts at the of the Arts Council. There is indeed a case for

directly elected representatives taking on responsibility for the distribution of the money that Parliament votes for the support of the arts.

However, in the real world I suspect that if this were done, it would not be very long before some new arm's-length-style body would have to be invented.

the first place, the Council includes among its members arts practitioners of the highest quality; in turn they receive expert advice from panels of arts professionals. Second, Council members and advisers give their services free. It. would be difficult, and very expensive, for the Civil Service to undertake this work without adding considerably to its own overhead.

Further, it is not true that there is no connection with elected representatives, as local government is an essential amponent in the structure of the egional Arts Boards, all of whose 10 chairmen serve as members of the Arts Council. The Secretary of State of the day, who appoints members of the Council for fixed terms, is accountable to Parliament.

As for accusations that members of the Council do, on occasion, have professional interests which benefit under the Lottery, this is indeed a sensitive and difficult issue. Stephen Dorrell, when he was Minister, answered it best when he said that for civil servants to administer the lottery system was the only alternative, and by definition this excluded practitioners. Some trust is necessary, and we have rigorous procedures which ensure that nobody affected by an award or associated closely with others affected can take any part in the discussion or decision-making

David Lister seems to blame the Arts Council for what I agree is the increasingly untenable imbalance between current funding under a Leadily reducing Treasury grant hd the large sums being made available for capital purposes

under the Lottery. On present form we are likely to find ourselves in a position where we have severely to restrict the activities of theatres, orchestras, opera companies and the like. which have only just received many millions for the provision of handsome new facilities from the Lottery. The funding system will look at best incompetent, at worst

insane: In the end we all know that improved facilities, as well as the welcome new directions which allow arts organisations to bid for "software" funding through the Lottery, will make a difference to revenues, but this will necessarily not be felt for two or three years. We have to persuade the Government to help us to get from

here to there.

And it is a pity that those like David Lister, who take a welcome and continuing interest in the arts, should be diverted by some constitutional debate from drawing

attention to the acute position in which we find ourselves. I ORD GOWRIE Chairman, The Arts Council of London SWI

Sir: The proposed New Museum of Art and Sculpture Park for Wales, designed by David Chipperfield and sited in the parkland of Powis Castle in Welshpool, is in danger of becoming the next lottery casualty in Wales, following the recent "fiasco" over the Opera House in Cardiff, which was also the subject of an international competition.

The Mid Wales Centre for the Arts Trust has carefully planned the project over the past five years, the culmination of this being the full planning permission granted earlier this year. Everything is in place for this outstanding scheme to bring £8m of investment to one of the most culturally neglected reas of Wales, bringing in its wake prosperity to the town of Welshoool

On 18 October the Arts Council of Wales will decide on the lottery funding for the development of the museum. It will have to face the fact that the new local authority, Powys County Council, has denied the project partnership funding and refused to accept the obligation to the scheme it inherited from the former Montgomeryshire District

The request to Powys is for an additional £14,000 over and above last year's revenue grant to the Trust. This is a minute fraction of the local authority's leisure

budget.
The local authority must reconsider its position if all the time, effort and money already

spent on this scheme is not to be wasted. We believe that the Arts Council of Wales must show vision and support for this new visual arts complex which will help to put Wales firmly on the international artistic map. The local authority funding will surely follow. Lord ELIS THOMAS SHANI RHYS JAMES ZAHA HADID MAUREEN KELLY OWEN ANDREW LOGAN DAVID NASH Professor IVOR RICHARDS

Mid Wales Centre for the Arts Welshpool, Powys Sir: In his article on Mrs Bottomley and her views on the arts (15 October), David Lister once again used that unattractive word "luvvies". However it is used, the word carries with it an implication of superficiality and condescension.

Sir RICHARD ROGERS

KYFFIN WILLIAMS RA

It would be refreshing if we could drop it - what is wrong with "artists"? The work of an artist is demanding and challenging, as the process of creation and recreation requires a level of imagination and self-discipline that many other professions in public life would find impossible to emplate – even if they make far more money! Let us be proud of what artists of all kinds do to enrich and stimulate our

lives. IAN HORSBRUGH Principal, Guildhall School of Music & Drama London EC2

Mustard gas far from phosphates

Sir. I read the two letters by Charles Secrett and Dr K Vala Ragnarsdottir (12 October) with

astonished disbelief. Organophosphates are very dangerous chemicals but they are not related to mustard gas. So far as I know, mustard gas is made from ethylene and sulphur chloride
-no phosphorus. Chlorfenvinphos and propetamphos are both organophosphates and contain phosphorus.

While it is almost certain that people using or being exposed to any of those substances might be poisoned - both acutely and cumulatively (OPs are gradually metabolised and broken down in the body, but chronic toxicity can occur) the two OPs are schedule III poisons: "Rubber gloves, a coverall and face-shield must be worn when

handling concentrate." Other objections to the letters are numerous, but I will cite only one. What evidence is there of BSE being caused by OPs? Scrapie was present in sheep 40 to 50 years before OPs were invented. A L WINFIELD Retired entomologist Ashford, Kent

Climate gamble Sir: "UK will profit by global warming" (report, 10 October)? Well, possibly for a period, until it gets ever hotter, but only if we

ignore hardships elsewhere and if

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E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

the climate trends assumed in the economic analysis turn out to be accurate. Unlike the real world, modelled climate scenarios tend to be rather simplistic, with slow and steady trends in temperature and related weather factors - and therein lies a risk. It is not unknown for natural systems to "flip" from one set of broadly stable conditions to another set, over a relatively short period of time.

feelgood" predictions such as those you report ignore the possibility of rapid changes. These would make life much more difficult for the UK and others than the headline suggests, but unfortunately we have only a very limited understanding of the probability or timing of such events in relation to climate change.

The scenarios leading to

Policy-makers thus appear to be being encouraged to gamble for very high stakes, at uncertain odds, rather than adopt a precautionary approach that could itself stimulate TONY ROBSON

Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Kuncie and gays Sir. In my review of Lord Runcie's

recent biography (28 September) I stated that Lord Runcie had once referred to homosexuals as "emotional cripples". Lord Runcie assures me that he has never used such an expression, which he believes his gay friends would find very offensive MICHAEL DE-LA-NOY Hove, East Sussex

Investors prove Britain's success

Sir: Alan Milburn's letter (16 October) tries to talk down the British economy's recovery. This is

flogging a very tired horse. Out in the real world, the British economy is racing ahead. Business investment is now second only to Japan in the G7 and accounts for a higher percentage of national

income than it did in 1979. Labour's obsession with league tables cannot hide the fact that all the current data points to the longterm economic fundamentals being

Why else would the IMF have said this year that Britain's performance is "enviable": To suggest that Britain is losing

out in international competitiveness is laughable. Overseas investors are voting with their chequebooks. Inward investment created over 50,000 new jobs last year and amounted to over £25bn. These companies come here to succeed. MICHAEL JACK

Financial Secretary to the Treasury London SW7

Time out of joint

Sir: Why is it that British Summer Time ends on 27 October, eight weeks before the shortest day, but recommences fourteen weeks after 21 December, on 30 March? By that time it is getting light at 5.40am, when few of us are awake to enjoy it. We should get our longer, brighter evenings beginning eight weeks after the shortest day, ie towards the end of February. DANIEL DENNIS

The great rail inquiry disaster Sir: Saturday, King's Cross ("Rail

gets its lines crossed", 16 October). Attempt to get copy of London to Cambridge winter timetable, which began two weeks ago. None left: "They only sent us a few. You'll have to get one from Cambridge."

Monday, Brighton: Manage to

get timetable for trains out of Brighton. For timetable, read timetables". Instead of one, I now have to have four.

Monday, Cambridge: Discover why I have to walk 200 yards from station to taxi rank. Taxi driver tells me Railtrack tried to triple British Rail's charges for picking up outside station.

Tuesday, Cambridge. Phone local train inquiries - referred on to national number. Phone iational number, recorded voice tells me: "No information available to callers from London' (but I'm phoning from Cambridge!). Referred on to a London number; permanently engaged. In desperation, phone old Network South East information number; get through after five-minute wait.

Yes, Sir George Young, you have every right to your complacency. Privatisation is succeeding more triumphantly than anyone could have expected. By starving travellers of information and throwing multiple inconveniences in their paths, your fragmented and incompetently managed rail services will soon achieve the ultimate in privatisation - a mass retreat to the private car. JOHN FIELD Cambridge

Sir: Further to your article about the problems of telephoning railway timetable inquiries. I have just made a local phone call from my computer to Compuserve. In 45 seconds I had all the times of trains from my local station to the next one down the line. In a further 10 seconds I had all the trains from Minsk to Brindisi (two randomly chosen places). It included all the places where I had to change, how long I had to wait and what facilities were available on the six different trains I would have to use.

Why is it so efficient? The service is provided by Deutsche Bahn AG. Sadly, it doesn't at present include prices, but I have no doubt that this will soon come. ROY TIPPING Bedford

Language Norm

Sir: It is an absurd daydream to hope that the world will accept English as the international language (letter, 15 October).

Even within Europe there is occasional chaos. At one European Union meeting, a French speaker said that to find a solution they needed "la sagesse normande". This was translated as: "We need Norman Wisdom."

Esperanto is a proved, practical and simple solution, CONNOR WALSH London SW15

Sizzling wigs Sir: Now that The Independent

boasts a tabloid section, can we expect an increased interest in the sexual preferences of public figures? Your headline "Senior judges turn on Major" (9 October) was a nasty shock. CBLACKER Ston Easton, Somersci

• • •

Reunited after 30 years

Clare Short and her son Toby talk exclusively to Suzanne Moore about the pain of separation and the pleasure of coming to know one another



Clare Short and her son, Toby Graham, yesterday

lare Short says she has never felt happier. She is glowing with pride as she introduces me to her son Toby and is delighted when say I can see the resemblance. Tohy Graham is the son she had to have adopted when she was a 19-year-old student at Birmingham. Now he is a 31-yearold solicitor working in the city and married with two children

that one day he would come has they sit arm in arm throughout the interview, anwering each other's questions, finishing off each other's sentences, laughing and hugging, hugely happy just to be in each others

"We've got the same hands, the same veins, the same insides. Look," says Clare. Both she and Toby show me their wrists to see if I can see the similarity they can see. They are still excited by this. After all, as Toby explains, this is only their

ninth meeting. They have only been reunited for four weeks. Before then, the last time Clare saw her son was when she handed over the six-week-old Toby to a private adoption agency. A few months after after her 18th birthday in 1964. and in her first year at university, she found herself pregnant Her first thought was "My

parents". She adds: "I come from a Catholic family, you know. I wrote to them. They were on hioliday in Ireland. I wrote them separate letters to Dad so he didn't ever read my letter. They were very differnt times. Now I'm very close to my mother. She lives with me in Birmingham and we talk about everything. But then... She couldn't talk about such things so there wasn't much talk. No one shouted at me but there it was, a fait accompli - we

got married." She married Toby's father in 1964, before the baby was born. They were together for seven

Was abortion ever an option? "It wasn't legal but upper-middle-class people used to go to Harley Street," says Clare. "My family would never have agreed so I didn't really contemplate it. l suppose I did, but I was under 21 so I would have had to get permission. I wouldn't consider

During the pregnancy Clare began to realise how hard it would be. "We were living in a cut-off place. I thought: 'I'm never going back to university. that it would be terrible all that there would be no money. that what I was doing was best for everybody. When they came to take him it was terrible. It's been terrible ever since."

Clare, with the support of her husband, had contacted a private adoption agency, who "leapt at the idea". Clare can remember little from this time. It is as if the memories are so painful they have been wiped

She says later: "I didn't really know what I was doing. I

thought it was all just rational, and by the time my emotions were there it was too late. That's the terrible thing, not knowing emotionally what I was doing. It started as soon as he went. I hated it, so it's astonishing that I didn't know that before. Nowadays they have and if that had been there for

me it wouldn't have happened". Her son was adopted by a comfortably off Tory family. Toby went to boarding school and then on to read law at the is a charming man who describes his childhood as "broadly happy". His adposive mother died ten years ago and his father, he says, has been

"very relaxed, supportive and understanding" about his search for his natural parents. As Toby says: "They are good people and have done me proud". "Obviously they have," adds Clare. "He's so nice".

Toby has two sisters, also adopted. "One of them is at Brimingham University and a great admirer of Clare's. She couldn't believe it when I told her my little bit of news. She

thought I was joking."
Clare proudly distributes baby pictures of Toby as he tells "Officially I've been looking for my natural parents for about a year. But in my mind I always wanted to know and I always intended to do this. I suppose what triggered it was when I had a child. I wanted to know what was in the genes".

Toby is married with two young children. I suggest this must have come as a shock to his wife Annie. "Yes". Clare thinking she's out there some-

agrees, "it's been stunning for her." Toby explains that his wife always saw the possibility Indeed, even after their first for pain and was prepared for that, "Also, we're a little unit of four people and now there's all these others". Clare's family is

Toby describes his schooldays as enjoyable. "Boarding school is a bit Victorian but it's a good place to meet friends. It's OK once you are there but it's a shock at first." As a student he was a Tory. "Well, my family tion. Clare reads out his electioneering blurb from the blue sticker: "It says here you want to go into national politics." "At the time I did." Nowadays though, Toby would not describe himself in these terms. Before he met Clare or knew

eno facus "Tve got 60, or 70,

nation Tory who was now looking at Blair. Joking that he has had his horizons broadened considerably lately, Toby adds: "I've been dissatisfied for a long time. The idea of another Major government fills me with absolute dread and now I'm much more interested in politics. I've started buying newspapers and reading them. I'm

who she was he had written to

her describing himself as a one

is just a feeling that we can't go on like this." Nover having been that interested before. Toby vaguely remembers seeing Clare on Question Time. But I would never have looked at the telly and said, 'Gosh, that's my

like lots of other people - there

where and hoping that she's still

meeting. Toby still didn't realise who Clare was, though she had tried to prepare him for it. She was available if ever her son wanted to find her. It was the son who made the first contact. After this, she wrote back, imaging it would be the first of many letters before they met. "I wanted him to know me before he knew who I was. I wanted to it being me". She wrote what Toby says is a "lovely letter". "I tried to fill him in on on family history. I said we had lots of teachers, that we were into social reform, that we were a little left. I talked about his father's family and how I regretted what I had done. Then I explained that there was this one little problem - "I've got this slightly high-profile job and we don't want the Press crawling round. He thought I

was being melodramatic." Toby couldn't wait to meet, and arranged to visit Clare at home. He left a message on her answering machine, not catching the surname. "When she answered the door we just sort of stared at each other for five minutes," says Toby. "You brought your bike in," laughs Clare. "She looked familiar but I said, 'So what's this high-profile job you've got then?' She said, 'I'm an MP'."

Was it a tearful occasion? "Not really," says Toby, "but it was a really powerful emotion. We just talked and talked. We

cried like that for years." Toby has also been reunited with his natural father, who has remarried. It has also been joyful. He has all of Clare's huge family to meet and she was going off to see her grandchildren for the first time. "She's just going to

see them sleeping in their beds. We've got to do it at the right pace for Annie my wife." Clare told Tony Blair as soon as she found out: "He has been great. His father was adopted. We talked about that and said that he didn't meet his real grandfather because of the way it was then was a source of sadness for him. Then he said: 'Clare, you are a one'." Was she frightened, of com-

ing out in the open about this? "Really, it's very private. In normal life people would just get on with it. But given the job I do we can't. We don't want people to think we're hiding. Iwould prefer not to talk to the media apart from saying 'Here we are and it's wonderful'. I just hope everyone is as happy for us as we are. I haven't kept quiet about it. It happened a long time ago and you don't go round talking about the most painful thing in your life." Toby adds: "I don't think you've lied." "No," says Clare. "People asked me if I had children and I didn't have any children."

I wondered how such a traumatic experience had influenced Clare's politics. "I think there is a sense in which it shaped me in that a lot of what I do in my politics and my advice bureau is to try and stop are very emotional. I did cry, people from getting hurt, or I

but not with Clare. I haven't try to undo the hurt and that is probably stronger in me because of this".

They are also confident that they will be able to talk about any feelings of anger that some times arise after the house moon period of being rediffer "We can do anything." Tall about anything," says Clare.

Toby feels a complete person for the first time in his life. "I know who I am, where I came from, what my roots are and that bit of my personality that was a vacuum is now filled.

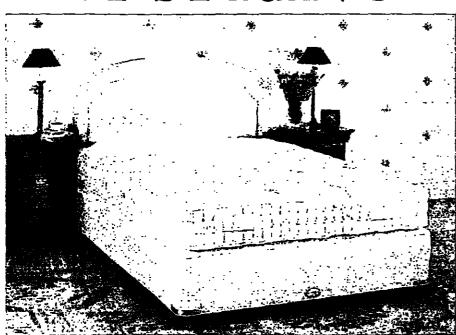
Clare says simply: "It wasn' a secret. It was a loss and a pain in me. I wasn't hiding anything. The big thing at the centre of my life was nainful. Of course. now I feel fabulous. It's not painful any more. Here he is." We start talking about the Mike Leigh film Secrets and Lies which Toby says he really wants

to see, and they start teasing

each other about their accents. "When I first met him I thought his accent was a bit posh, but I don't notice it now. When he came to lunch with my ! think?' I know his accent's a bit posh, but he can't help that." = She burst out giggling. "I'll have 🦼 to have elocution lessons tone it down," laughs Toby.

We talk of how widespread adoption is and yet how it's still not spoken about very much. I ask Clare if she is afraid of being attacked. "I don't care. I want everyone to know. I want to show him off. It's just a happy story." Her son agrees. "It's a wonderful story," he says as he squeezes his mother's hand. And so it is.

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Writers and BBC folk: clean and reuse 'em



Miles Kington

rends in words are like trends in cooking, They come and go without anyone really understanding the principles behind them. Hands up those who really know what Balti cooking is. Nobody? As I thought. Me neither. Hands up those who really know what "gnomic" or "palimpsest" means.

Nobody? Thank you. There is the group of trendy imported words from French and German culture, of which "Zeitgeist" is now a fading member but in whose number "genre" and

"noir" and "auteur" and "tranche" are still going quite strong.

of words that derive from business babble, words such as "target" and "focus" and "profile". I talked on a train the other day to a young BBC man returning from a course in Milton Keynes. He said he was a strategic analyst with the BBC. I asked him what that meant. Well, he said, it meant that he helped to identify customer requirements in certain demographic areas which could be built up into programming paradigms which would lead to new strategic

You mean, I said, you find out what people want and give it to them good

No, he said, shrinking back from these horrible plain words like Mary Whitehouse from a string of obscenities, it means that I help to identify certain customer requirements ...

He did not know how to rephrase what he had just said. I was not surprised to learn that the reason he had been to Milton Keynes was for a course to teach him how to understand BBC management talk. The BBC was trying to scrape away his command of English and replace it with Birtian business babble. To them, he was just a

palimpse I would be surprised to learn that he knew what a palimpsest was. But then Gore Vidal was not sure either. He chose the word as the title for his recent book of early memoirs, yet was so unsure why he was choosing it that he confesses as follows in his preamble:-

"Palimpsest ... For years I've used this obscure word incorrectly. Worse, I've always mispronounced it, not sounding the second 's'. I had thought that the word was applicable only to architecture, like the wall of San Marco at Venice with its fragments of bas-reliefs, bits of porphyry, shards of ceramic, all set in plaster to form a palimpsest ...

"I have just now looked up the earliest meaning of 'palimpsest'. It is even more apt than I thought: 'Paper, parchment, etc. prepared for writing on and wiping

out again, like a slate', and 'a parchment, etc, which has been written upon twice, the rubbed out.' This is pretty much what my kind of writer does anyway. Starts with life; makes a text; then a RE-vision - literally, a second seeing, an after-thought, erasing some but not all of the original while writing something new over

the first layer of text."

A typical piece of Gore Vidal, that. The charm with which he admits that he, the famously fussy Gore Vidal, has been using a word wrong. The obstinacy with which he accurately describes the wrong definition. The fastidiousness with which he brings in a reference to San Marco (NOT Saint Mark's), and words like 'porphyry' and 'shard'. And the wilful misunderstanding of the right definition to fit in with his wants in a palimpsest everything is

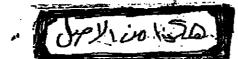
wiped away before reuse, as he says, but a moment later he is saying that some of the original is left; which is clearly quite untrué but would not give point to his

A palimpsest, then, is a tabula rasa, a tablet wiped clean for reuse. Well, I have spent half a century on this earth without needing that image, except in this piece, so I am amazed at the number of people on radio who do seem to need to use it.

Actually, it's not a very large number. It may be only one or two. But that's still more than I'd expect, even if Vidal is the only one who has gone so far as to use it as a title for a memoir. I wonder if any of the other trendy, overused words knocking around in the top 100 would make a good title for a memoir ...?

Epistemology, by Melvyn Bragg, Dystopia, by Martin Amis; Hubristic, by Jeffrey Archer, Aloe Vera, by Anita Roddick; Attabilious, by Ian Paisley, Focus, by Lord Lichfield: Narcolepsis, by Jilly Cooper; Deconstruction, by Gerry Adams ...:

Any other suggestions from readers? All good ones will be ruthlessly used and attributed.



Does anyone know what Jimmy wants?

t isn't hard to see why the less robust Tories are just a little jittery about Sir James Goldsmith at the moment. This Saturday, an extraordinary and distinctly media-friendly event takes place in Brighton: the national conference of a brand new hespoke party led by a bil-lionaire with £20m to spend on the general election and a compellingly single-minded approach to politics.

It's easy, of course, to dismiss the band of socialites, individualist businessmen and eccentrics - glamorous and less glamorous - who will gather tomorrow night in Brighton for the Referendum Party conference. The British electorate doesn't like single-issue politics. His party is scarcely a blip in the opinion polls. Peter De Savary, Geoffrey Boycott, and John Aspinall aren't really credible as the vanguard of a new political movement. But let's leave the celeb spotting to *The Tatler* for just a moment. The really interesting question about this weekend's jamboree is whether it provides an answer to the most intriguing question: what does Jimmy want? Frightened politicians for a

start. It would take a column far longer than this to list the many extreme differences between Sir James Goldsmith and Lloyd George. But they have one feature in common. The 1918 general election is commonly called "the coupon election", because

the Liberal and Conservative coalition candidates had to be certified as satisfactory supporters of the wartime Prime Minister before being sure they would be unopposed. The diehard Asquithian Liberals either refused or were refused a coupon and only a minority were elected. The Liberals were smashed as a consequence, but that's another matter.

Sir James is now operating his own version of a coupon election, and with even more zeal than the coalition leaders did in 1918. In an interview with BBC TV's On the Record last Sunday, Sir James chillingly explained how every MP's record was examined for whether he had voted for a referendum: "Whenever they have done so they get a certain number of points; whenever they've failed to vote, voted against or abstained they get no points."

It is obvious therefore that the 78 MPs who voted for Bill Cash's Referendum Bill earlier in the year, some of them directly because of fear of Sir James, have a good chance of high points. But what of Sir Michael Spicer, a leading Maastricht rebel who voted in favour of a referendum on the treaty? Sir James was uncompromising: "Michael Spicer's history is one of moving with the wind ... I do not believe in what he says and his voting record is not impeccable." Never mind that Sir James's own views have evolved a bit since he proposed in the French edition of The Trap, "central powers" for Brussels over "diplomacy and defence", the rigour with which Sir James is awarding his metaphorical coupons has something of the flavour of a mid-century Trotskyite sect.



Donald Macintyre

Political explanation runs into the sand. Perhaps the answer lies deep in Sir James Goldsmith's psyche

options: 1) staying in the EU as it is; 2) returning to a pre-Maas-tricht EU; 3) being in an EU which was just an Efta-style free-trade area; or 4) getting out of the EU altogether. Two and Three look startlingly similar to Four, since it's surely impossible to imagine the rest of the EU opting for either just because the British electorate was in favour of them. And yet, as I understand it, Sir James would not be satisfied with a simple referendum on whether Britain should be in or out of the EU. The campaign line, of course, is that Sir James's own political agenda has nothing to do with the Referendum Party. Yes, he's anti-Ell/rome) anti-EU (now) but withdrawal is anti-EU (now) but withdrawal is not a party objective. Nor is the one goal which can be ascribed to Sir James that distinguishes him from every leading British politician, including, notably Lady Thatcher: Sir James opposes global free trade. He's long been a champion of Euro-pean protectionism against the

pean protectionism against the US and the Far East. Now it is

possible that Sir James might

But being scary can't be the whole answer. In theory Sir

James just wants a Euro-refer-

endum. But a referendum on

what exactly? The exact details,

it seems, would be worked out by a Speaker's Conference. But

to make Sir James pack up his

tent, it would have to pose four

attract some militant young Tories anxious to revisit the anti-American protectionist tendencies of previous generations on the right. But it's almost impossible to understand how his long-held enthusiasm for European tariff barriers squares with his desire to dismantle the EU as we know it. Indeed the "what does he want" question is now so confusing that it's almost easier to fall back on the psychological explanation offered by his biographer Geoffrey Wansell. According to Wansell, Goldsmith's greatest regret was that his "unconventional personal life" had prevented him entering politics. A regret all the keener because his MP father, Frank, lost his seat in the wave of anti-German

feeling at the end of the First World War. This week his party is claiming a fresh momentum. Ten thousand are said to have registered as "active supporters" after the media blitz of the past few days. Yesterday Sir James challenged Jacques Santer to a TV debate after the European Commission complained about the content of his newspaper advertisements. A spokesman for Sir James denied persistent reports from Vienna that he is planning to form a grouping in the European Parliament with Jörg Haider. But even supposing such momen-tum could be sustained, I doubt if the Referendum Party will have remotely as much impact in the ballot box as it will have on TV screens.

laugh.
Without figures, the experts
are lost. "The basic problem Last week Sir James publicly "vomited" over the present generation of professional politicians, their evasions and their prevarications. But for all their low opinions of the messy accommodations of party politics the electors are more grimly realistic about the alternatives

Nothing for something - the Nineties way

by Ann Treneman

ark Howarth was 23 and wanted to make something of his a pie factory and behind a bar. A week of work experience at Radio Stoke came to nothing, but he was luckier at Ray-mond's press agency in Derby. "Not a word was said, but it graduated from work experience to voluntary work,"

That lasted for three months. His mum and dad had to help him out, and finally, just when he was getting desperate for money, Raymond's offered him a job - the kind that comes with a monthly pay cheque. "It was a fantastic feeling. It really was all worth it," he says. That

was more than a year ago.

Some people might consider
this a modern-day version of slave labour. Mark and his employer disagree. "I've worked jobs for £75 a week that I considered slave labour. This was not slave labour. It was something I had to do to make my mark and get on the lad-der," he says. In Nineties Britain, it is

strange but true that one of the best ways to get a job is to work for nothing. "I just think it is amazing how many people are working for nothing." says one twentysomething who did not want his name used for fear of losing his non-job. "Sometimes I get outraged by it, and then suddenly I remember that I am working for nothing, too."

It's the kind of memory trick experienced by hundreds, if not thousands, of Britons. It used to be that nobody discussed salaries out of discretion; now it may be that they simply don't have one to be discreet about. These "job" arrangements are often casual, secretive, ad hoc. After all, this is essentially a feudal relationship, and serfs are not

best known for speaking out. The Government knows marshal one fact about unpaid workers or work experience. There is no category for them in the labour force survey, so officially they do not exist. The Department for Education and Employment suggests the national Foundation for Educational Research, but a query on figures only brings a

with this area is precisely its informality," says Michael White of the Policy Studies Institute. "There are no statis-



In Britain today it is strange but true that one of the best ways to get a job is to work for no pay. But where does exploitation begin?

tics on it. One is very much exploitation start? Some up on qualifications," he says.

Sue Dirmikis's anecdotes are superior to most. She heads the University of London's King's College careers office, and does not hesitate when asked if unpaid work experience can last for months. "Definitely, that's normal. That's my experience. I do caution people, however, to be sure that the work they are doing is

being appreciated."

Britain has a black market and a grey market, but this is an invisible market. No one knows when volunteering ends and work begins. When does

ployers hint at payment but never cough up. To what lengths will the young and hopeful go? As Bert Clough of the TUC notes, "Everybody wants to be Jeremy Paxman these days." But Paxman's Rule must be that there can only be

Ian Christie, of the Henley Centre for Forecasting, sees unpaid work as a trend especially prevalent in the arts, the environment and the media. In all of these areas, demand for jobs far outstrips supply. "The more the labour market tightens, the more you see a bidding

occasions, a Ms Barbara

these areas are going to find that having the right qualifications is not enough. There will be a bidding up on experience, too. Some will find that they have to do a long, unpaid apprenticeship.

But who is getting hurt here? Mark Howarth and his employer have emerged as winners. And if a volunteer worker" feels exploited, it should not be that hard to leave. Perhaps the only losers are those who miss their career break because they cannot afford to work for free. They're

back at the pie factory, dreams

There is a more pernicious trend, though. We are living though a great blurring of the lines between work and pay. As apprenticeships have died, training schemes have blossomed. Now they are booming, and in their wake trails the likes of Workfare. It has not escaped people's notice that one of the employers in Kent to take on the pilot project is a Napoleonic fort whose foundations were

built on slave labour. Work experience is not slave labour, but it is still work for no pay, and inevitably this is the kind of trend that confuses some employers into thinking that it is normal for some jobs to be done for free. The Freebie Factor is no trifling matter: it is easy to believe that it is your right to have that holiday, that bottle of whisky, that keen young thing to do the photo-copying. "I think it certainly is the case increasingly that if employers can get people to work for very little or nothing. they will employ them," says Bharti Patel, deputy director of the Low Pay Unit.

This could be a factor behind the fall in hourly wages. "The lowest-paid male manual workers now earn less, relative to the average, than in 1886 when figures were first collected," says Ms Patel. Downshifting can be self-defeating. In Oregon, in the western United States, it is illegal to pump your own petrol. The reason for this law is to protect the kind of minimum-wage service jobs that every economy needs. It is far better to be pumping petrol

than unemployed.

That sort of thinking does not fit in Britain's enterprise economy, where people work longer hours than anywhere else in Europe. A new book. The Blair Revelation, by Michael Barratt Brown and Ken Coales. notes that some two million more people could have been employed if everyone worked a hours. As the Low Pay Unit director Chris Pond has said: 'We're about to enter the next century, but many people are stranded in the last."

A hundred years ago, it was normal for parents to pay employers for an apprenticeship for their child. As more young hopefuls find ad hoc apprenticeships, parents are once again digging deep into their pockets. After all, if their sons and daughters want a job. they should be prepared to work for it. That is the

Then the invitation arrived to dine at Sudeley Castle, I thought, Well of course. I am very much a castle kinda guy these days. I've reached that stage of maturity, that pitch of distinction, that plane of sophistication which should. by rights, ensure invitations to stately homes and battlemented fortresses come flocking like Hitchcock sparrows through my letter box every weekend. If I possessed a valet. I would have instructed him to lay out my smoking jacket and monogrammed shirt (if I possessed either) and pack the old soup-andfish into the Louis Vuitton matching bags (if I possessed one) before motoring to Gloucestershire in the Morgan with the leather belt over he bonnet (guess). Being, however, grindingly poor and

4 :5

humble. I filled an overnight bag with toothbrushes, nonmatching socks and the Booker shortlist, hauled on my fake-Armani two-piece, and headed for Paddington. En route to Cheltenham (our hostess was sponsoring one of the events at the Literary Festival), I fell into a

pleasing reverie: the courtyard

lioned windows, the noise of a

ablaze with lights from mul-

brace of Irish wolfhounds dismembering some unfortunate villein in the outhouses, flaming torches on the castle's ancient frontage, ancient oaks past which one's limo grandly sweeps, a gruff word of welcome from Borage, the gnarled but loyal butler, and one's lovely hostess framed in the doorway: "John, how lovely. I've put you in the

Japanese Room... Baffingly, no limo greeted one at the station so, encumbered by briefcase and overnight bag, I hailed a cab. As we speeded the 10 miles that lay between me and an evening of tinkling laughter and chaps offering you snuff, I realised I was starving. And it was 8.30pm and I was gasping for a drink. Ah well (I promised my reflection), 15 minutes from now, you'll be drowning in Kir Royales and haloed in Passing Clouds.

We stopped at an uncompromising gate, chained and padlocked and bearing a message that people with deliveries should consider delivering them somewhere else (Stroud, say). The driver opined that I would have to walk. Certainly not, I said, kindly drop me off in front of the castle, beside the mullioned windows etc. No chance matey, he retorted,



Sudelcy Castle: lovely by day, demonic by night

It came to me: I was in a comic novel. Not Tom Sharpe, more Wodehouse

it's here or nothing. So, briefcase and overnight bag in hands, I set off on the mile or so to the castle, whose lights you could see as a spectral gleam through the trees. lt was hellish dark, illumi-

nated by fitful moonlight that turned the trees into silhouettes of huge animals throttling smaller ones. I thought of Dana Andrews being pursued by a fiend on a forest in Night of the Demon. My foot-steps rang with diminishing confidence as I got near another gate, a much larger one like at the entrance to Citizen Kane's Xanadu. It was festooned with barbed wire. It didn't actually say "Trespassers will be shot", but the message was clear. I took an adjacent pathway that, instead of leading towards the castle, kept steering you away from it. And every time you thought to climb the fence, it

saw-tooth wire and spikes. The pathway disimproved into a muddy track. The moon disappeared, as did my chances of a Kir Royale. I climbed one fence, then a stile in a patch of nettles. I tried vhistling "I Got No Strings To Tie Me Down" to keep my spirits up, but no sound came (thirst, you see). My spotlessi

became all businesslike, with

brogues had started to resem-ble tournedos en croute. Finally a huge fence loomed, beyond which lay a car park - and, in over the fence while raising one leg, I snagged the fake Armani trousers on razor-wire. It was at that moment, as I hung suspended by a single thread, lost, bemuddled, knackered, luggage-burdened, starving, kir-deprived and keeping an eye out for a mastiff or a sign saying "Beware Ferocious Bull", that it came to me: I was living in a comic novel. Not Tom Sharpe, more like Wodehouse. I'd become one of those foolish young men from town arriving to pitch some woo at Lord

Emsworth's pretty nieces. An hour later - de-muddied, slaked and fed - I turned to the lady on my right. "I hadn't heard of Sudeley Castle," I said. "Is it Norman?" "I've no idea," she said, "but I'm sure you know it was the original of Blandings, don't you?'

verheard the other day by a friend in Hatchards of Piccadilly (bookshop to the gentry): female assistant at cash register says pleasantly to chatty account customer, "Oh yes, we get all sorts in here. Why last Friday, in the

space of one hour, we had the Duchess of Kent buying gardening books... and General Pinochet buying books on Military History and Diplomacy". And taking tea and fondant fancies together in Fortnums afterwards, I'll be bound. (Now that would be a story...)



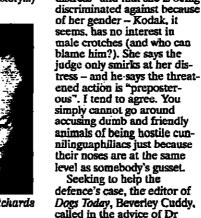
The Duchess of Hatchards

nember the little rassment for kissing a little necticut, they're now trying to arraign a dog for unman-nerly conduct. What's more (oh joy, oh bliss), the owner of the accused is a judge.

According to my copy of marrowbone recipes), a office, Kodak, who is pos-But rather than greet the

American boy who was accused of sexual hargirl in his class? Well in Con-

Dogs Today (I get it for the Superior Court Judge named Howard Moraghan habitually brings his golden retriever Kodak to the court. While hanging around the clerks' sessed of a lively and rather, ually goes up to women wearing skirts and nuzzles them. dog's overtures with the traditional strangled laugh and a bit of squirming, one of Kodak's victims is suing him, via his owner, for "aggressive



nilinguaphiliacs just because their noses are at the same level as somebody's gusset. Seeking to help the defence's case, the editor of Does Today, Beverley Cuddy, called in the advice of Dr Roger Mugford, an animal behaviour specialist, who said: "Dogs greet each other that way. It's a rich source of information. Their superior noses can tell age, sex, health - even what has most recently been eaten.. Excuse me a moment. Feel a bit queasy.



B A R N E S nuzzling". On at least three Monsky complains, "the dog has stuck its nose under the plaintiff's skirt and pointed $T \odot M$ its shout upwards towards her crotch". The poor plain-tiff is claiming "emotional distress" and that she is being STOPPARD NICK ORNBY JUNG JULIET STEVENSON all reading and signing on behalf of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture on Friday 18th October at 6.30pm at the RSA, 8 John Adam Street

> on 0181 996 4327 or 0181 543 3605 All tickets are £15 and include wine

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Senior Wickes management was aware of bogus profits 6 months before disclosure

Wickes' senior management were aware of accounting irreg-ularities at the group's DIY business at least six months before they made the problems public, it emerged yesterday. The admission is contained in a letter sent to Wickes shareholders yesterday by the new chairman, Michael von Brentano. The letter attempts to detail how the accounting difficulties arose and who was responsible.

It states: "Instances came to light in 1995 in Wickes' businesses in the UK and on the Continent of rebates and contributions being booked as profit in the group's accounts earlier than was justified. The board believes that senior management and the auditors [Arthur Andersen] should have reacted more effectively to these warn-

ing signals."

Wickes did not make a public disclosure about the problems until June this year, when it admitted that its profits might have been over-stated due to the incorrect accounting of supplier rebates and contributions. Henry Sweetbaum resigned as

chairman the following day. The company has not revealed what these "instances" were. However, it admits that they included the poorly performing Hunter Timber business, which was sold in September 1995. The company says it became aware of "inmethods during that year.

The company declined to elab-

gestions that Hunter's suppliers demanded the return of their rebates and contributions when the

business was sold in 1995. Management's failure to dis close the problems earlier is just cluded in the damning report, which was delayed for more than two weeks due to legal difficulties.

The report confirms a systematic attempt to conceal the accounting scam that centred on the buying department. It concluded that there was "serious mismanagement", "deliberate misrepresentation" and "uncommercial arrangements." It said profits were over-stated by £51m between 1992-96 at Wickes Building Supplies, the group's main DIY retailing subsidiary.

Some of the activities, such as the misleading of the auditors, are contrary to criminal law. However, the Serious Fraud Office says it is not yet investigate ing the Wickes affair. The DTI also says that it has not moved to ban any of the Wickes management from acting as a director. Wickes is reserving the auditors, Arthur Andersen.

The six page document says immediate responsibility for the problems lay with former chairman, Henry Sweetbaum, who had "ultimate responsibility for the group's policies on rebates and contributions."It continues: "He must therefore accept responsibility for what occurred in the buying department, which he has done, and for the failure of the group's senior management to implement controls to



any knowledge of the irregular-ities, is to pay back £720,000 net of tax. This represent two thirds of the payments he received under the group's long-term in-centive plan. He is waiving any right to future payments under the scheme, which could have amounted to £885,000. He is also waiving any claim for compensation for loss of office. The com-



pension which has a capital val-ue of £2.9m. Trefor Llewellyn, the former finance director, now at Caradon, who also denied knowledge of the problems, will repay £485,000 of his long-term bonus payments. The company against him. Mr Llewellyn was succeeded as finance director by Stuart Stradling in August 1995.

Michael Corner has stepped down as group administration director and resigned from the board. He is not repaying any of the £600,000 he received in annual bonus and long-term in-

Les Rosenthal and UK commercial director Chris Miles, who resigned from the group 1995, £14m in 1994 and £11m in

centive plan payments last year.

He will be retained as a con-

sultant and no claim will be



earlier this year, will not receive any payment for loss of office. The company is reserving the right to take further action against them. Disciplinary proceedings involving further middle ranking executives and more junior employees will be

implemented in due course. The report states that profits at Wickes Building Suppliers were over-stated by £16m in the years before that. This related to the incorrect booking of supplier rebates which were often linked to "unrealistic volume supplier arrangements were uncommercial and were "solely designed to generate rebates and contributions in one year at the expense of later years."

Group shareholder funds will be reduced by £2m due to sim-

Europe. A further £10m provision will be made to cover the group's exposure to property leases relating to Builders Mate targets". The report says some and Hunter Timber. Almost 100 sites still remain unsold.

The report further reveals in the first nine months of this year, primarily as a result of correctly accounting for supply

Sacked BET head wins £3m in compensation

Financial Editoi

John Clark, the chief executive sacked from BET after a takeover by Rentokil Initial, yesterday won £3m in compensation, in a decision that could dramatically increase the size of future executive payoffs.

Although Mr Clark received only half the fom he asked for, because he failed to win an additional £3m claim for lost share options, the court awarded him the full benefit of his three-year rolling contract. Normally executives receive much less than the full amount of their contracts, because the payoffs are negotiated down-

ward when they depart. The award stunned Rentokil Initial which called it an "enormous sum" and announced it would appeal. It is four times the £750,000 Rentokil Initial paid into court before the case. and three times the £1m that Mr it was unlikely that somebody

for, shortly after he was dismissed in April.

However, a Rentokil Initial spokesman said the company was astonished by the claim that Mr Clark had offered to settle for £1m. "Our final offer was £950,000 and we never received an offer to settle for £1m."

Mr Clark, 55, said he had offered to have the matter referred to independent arbitration so that it could be dealt with quickly and privately to save £600.000 legal costs, which Rentokil's shareholders will now

have to pay. He added that he was now eager to continue his search for a new challenge" as chief executive in a big organisation.

During the hearing, there were claims from Rentokil Initial's side that Mr Clarke had spent the summer playing golf and had not seriously looked for a job, and counter claims that

Clark said he offered to settle his age could find another post | terday launched a telephone as chief executive

Mr Justice Timothy Walker rejected suggestions by BET that Mr Clark had not taken proper steps to mitigate his fi-nancial loss by seeking alternative employment.

The judge accepted evidence from a consultant who said he could recall only two instances when clients had accepted applicants over the age of 55.

The award was for loss of £490,000 salary.- including increases - during the three-year notice period to which he was entitled under his rolling contract, plus damages for loss of pension rights, bonus payments of 50 per cent of salary, an executive car and chauffeur, health insurance and the value of holiday entitlement.

Mr Clark was head-hunted by BET in 1991. He much improved the group's fortunes and there was no suggestion he was sacked for failure.

Morgan reassures clients as heads roll

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell yesonslaught on its key clients to reassure them about its fund management subsidiary's prospects, as it confirmed that four top directors and a compliance

The most senior departure chant Navy Officers' Pension fell's revival has left." His inwas Keith Percy, chief executive Fund, which is to review its convestment committee meets in of Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, who has been replaced by Robert Smith, who headed Morgan Grenfell's investigation into the £180m fund management scandal.

However, Morgan's attempt to reassure its clients was met

tract with the company. Geoff fund, which has over £200m at Morgan, said: "This is something for the trustees to consider. Keith has built up a strong team."

He added " It's obviously a concern that the person who was

the architect of Morgan Gren-

vestment committee meets in December and will not discuss Mr Smith, a 52-year-old egian, said: "Obviously with change like this some people may reconsider. We've spo-ken to big institutional funds and we seem to be getting sup-portive comments back."

Nigel Cope

Graham Kane, managing director of Morgan Grenfell Unit Trust Managers, Michael Wheat-Henry, chief executive of the Morgan Grenfell before then. ley, compliance director at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management and Glvn Owen, chief investment officer for the international division of Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, were also shown the door yesterday.

Kirkham family to

Guardian revives plans for listing

Mathew Horsman Media Editor

Guardian Media Group, owners of the Guardian and Ob-server newspapers, is believed to have revived plans to seek a stock market listing for some of its key assets, in part to raise equity funds to offset growing losses at its ailing Sunday title.

The plan would see the company's Auto Trader title, its ndependent television production companies and other non-core assets pooled into a its subsidiaries.

The Guardian Media Group, controlled by the Scott Trust, would sell shares in the enlarged subsidiary, although it is believed GMG would continue to hold a majority stake. The equity funds raised would be used in part to help finance the develop of the two national titles.

The plan is similar to one contemplated in 1989, which was rejected by the Scott Trust. It is

believed that the current plan

casting Communications, one of eral GMG directors. Directors contacted yesterday did not return phone calls. Harry Roche, the executive chairman of the group, could not be reached. It is believed the plan may have been developed with the

help of Hambros Bank. The bank had no comment. The Observer has been a significant drain on the group, and several efforts have been made to turn it around. Most recent-

nounced that his two children are to sell the bulk of their 22 per cent stake in the company, raising up to £120m. iy, the title was relaunched with a new editor, Will Hutton.

The sale comes a year after Sir Graham sold 74 million shares worth £60m. Three years ago the ebullient Yorkshireman and his immediate family raised £130m when DFS was floated on the stock market. Sir Graham said his two chil-

Sir Graham Kirkham, the York-

shire entrepreneur who runs

DFS Furniture, yesterday an-

dren, Michael and Julie were selling the shares to spread their portfolio of investments. "My children's shareholding in DFS represents the vast majority of their personal assets. Given they have no involvement at all in the running of the com-pany and are married with children of their own, they consider a broader investment portfolio more appropriate to their individual needs and circum-

stances. Sir Graham said his children would retain "a meaningful stake" in the company. He

sell stake in DFS added that he had no plans to sell his remaining 8 per cent

holding. Sir Graham gave the shares Sir Granam gave to to his two children in the earth to his two chi works for an overseas charity. Julie Cross, 30, recently gave birth to a second child.

Sir Graham said he was not

disappointed with the decision. "I would say there is no better place for their money than in DFS. But they are both adults. If they feel it is right for them I would want to support them. I'm not disappointed at all," He said no decision had been made on how the funds might be invested. He hinted that some might be invested in art, which would appeal to Sir Gra-Gainsborough paining ahead of the company's flotation. He said the family had no invest-

ments in property "which some might see as a gap".
The planned share sale was made alongside an impressive set of figures for last year which showed DFS profits increased by 19 per cent to £31m.

Inflation danger as public borrowing hits £3.4bn

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

Signs of inflationary pressures building up in the jobs market alarmed the City vesterday, as did figures showing that government borrowing was surprisingly high last month.

The headline unemployment

cent, its lowest for more than five years, while the gap between public spending and tax revenues was, at £3.4bn, above £1bn more than expected. Labour called for an independent audit of the public fi-

rate in September fell to 7.4 per

nances ahead of next month's Budget. "The British people have a right to know the real Alan Milburn, the Treasury

These terrible ligures show that the Government is continuing to run up debt at the rate of over £1,000 per second." said Malcoim Bruce, spokesman for the Liberal Democrats.

But the Chancellor is still expected to approve plans-for tax Treasury's pre-Budget meeting tomorrow. Analysts think he will also leave the cost of borrowing unchanged after the next monetary meeting, due on 30 October.

The unemployment claimant count fell by 35,600 to 2,073,100 last month, the biggest monthly drop since December 1994

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Source: FT Information

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REAL EARNINGS GROWTH

of vacancies at Jobcentres increased by 16,600. Employment rose by 35,000

well above trend. The number based on a survey of employers. The Labour Force Survey, a survey of employees, showed an increase of 70,000 in employment in the April-June quarter, the in June-August, of which 15,000 Most worrying for the finan-cial markets, the underlying growth of average earnings was estimated at 4 per cent in August, with July's figure revised up to the same level. Earnings trend for more than a year. "This will no doubt fuel conceru that conditions in the labour market are tightening,"

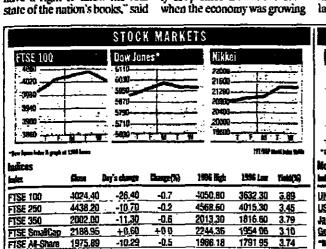
said Alex Garrard, an economist

Separate figures showed that the Public Sector Borrowing Reuirement was an unexpected-large £3.4bn last month. Excluding privatisation receipts, which amounted to just under £1bn in September, the PSBR is scarcely any lower than at the

Although the gilts market fell in reaction to the figures, analysis agreed the gap between revenues and spending would be close to target. "The public finances are still on an improving trend," said Simon Briscoe at investment bank Nikko. Tax revenues have grown in

line with the Treasury forecast so far this year, but spending is running ahead of plans. Last month this was due partly to a £1.2bn one-off payment to clear some index-linked government debt. The Treasury said yesterday the PSBR was on line to meet the £27bn target this year. The FTSE 100 index fell

nearly 29 points to 4,022 yes-terday. Sterling edged down to



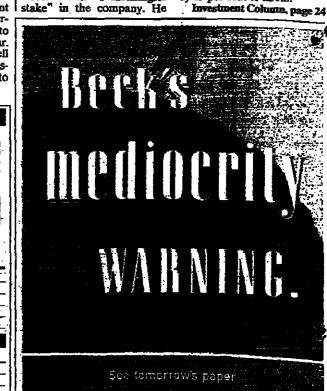
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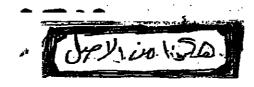
latest economy-wide figure were full-time jobs. INTEREST RATES Sond Yields 1 Month 1 Terr | Perform Based CO 5.75 6,25 8.10 7.67 5.25 5.78 _0.47_ 3.06 3.16 Price (g) Change (g) Change (i Falls Price (s) Change (s) % Chang Nynex Cable 92.5 Allied Domecq 482.5

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thrown to the wolves!

et's call them Mr Smug and Mr Smooth. On second thoughts, why beat about the bush? We are talking here about John Manser, chief executive of Robert Fleming. and Michael Dobson, chief executive of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. Both lord it over organisations which have recently been linked with scandalous financial crookery, rat trading in Hong Kong for Robert Fleming, and fraudulent misuse of other people's money in the case of Morgan Grenfell.

Both have been grovelling in their apologies and contrite in the extreme over what occurred. And yet both of them are still there. Others with equally little idea of the thievery going on beneath their noses, and yet line responsibility for those directly to blame, have meanwhile been thrown to the wolves. Five of them went yesterday at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, including the likeable Keith Percy, its chief executive.

Three have aiready gone at Robert Fleming.
They may or may not have deserved their fate. But what of Mr Smug and Mr Smooth? What are they still doing there? And why is there still no evidence of root and branch reform in the organisations they manage?

The simple answer to these questions is that neither of them heads up publicly quoted companies. If they had, they would have been gone by now. Robert Fleming is still privately owned and largely family controlled. Morgan Grenfell is part of Deutsche Bank. So both have been shielded from the full force of accountability and responsibility.

ourable thing and offered to fall on his sword - or that is what the spin doctors would have you believe anyway - but were eventually prevailed upon to suffer the burden of office and salary a little longer, so as to sort ont the mess and provide continuity. There is scant evidence of anything changing very much, however. Despite the dearouts, there are no new brooms to sweep away the old, and presumably rotten, culture. The management clearout has involved little more

than a reshuffling of the pack. Nor has either Mr Dobson or Mr Manser been able to offer any kind of credible explanation for what occurred. Mr Dobson has described it as an "isolated incident", as if it: were no more than an embarrassing faux pas dropped over dinner with his shooting pals. Mr "I was misquoted" Manser, has mean-while railed against the regulators (don't you just hate them). "Honestly! Why is it that we all have to spend so much time answering to these people," he might have said.

The contrast with the scrutiny our MPs and politicians are now being subjected to

could hardly be greater or more revealing. Here is David Willetts, a former whip, hauled over the coals, lambasted, crucified, up before the beak and about to face a pubtic grilling of the most daunting variety, merely for doing his job and writing a memo on how the damage to the Govern-ment being wrought by allegations of sleeze

Parliament looks like a model of restraint. probity and decency set against the sort of nousense that was going on at Morgan Gren-fell and Robert Fleming. The "offences" complained of are nit-picking by comparison. Are organisations that occupy positions of public trust to be thought so very different from those who hold positions of public service? Clearly so, judging by the way these things are being swept under the carpet. What action regulators are taking occurs behind closed doors in smoke-filled

Nothing can touch Mr Smug and Mr Smooth

تعكذا من المذعل

No wonder those not connected with the City, which is the great bulk of the British population, have come to mistrust it so much. It is not just its salaries and markets that seem to belong to an altogether different world. Its standards of morality, disclosure and accountability appear to have been beamed down from another planet too. And small wonder too that so many of our MPs want to swap the goldfish bowl of polities for the anything-goes environment of

Out of the darkness and into the whitewash nince they sell the stuff, we should perhaps

Onot be too surprised to discover that Wickes shows a dab hand at applying the whitewash. And, boy, is there plenty of it coursing the six-page letter from Michael von Hardly Mr Sweetbaum, who still walks away around the Wickes trading concept?

came to be stung by one of the more specacular accounting scandals of our time.

The feeble attempt to news manage the story by selectively leaking it has, as so often happens, backfired spectacularly as well. No one emerges with any credit from this shabby episode. Henry Sweetbaum, former chairman and chief executive, is held "ultimately responsible" and the company is left wondering if it has any future.

But back for a moment to the stuff that washes whiter. Here we have a company that has overstated profits by £51m in the past four years, miraculously transformed a £9m operating loss in 1995 into a £17m profit and comprehensively pulled the wool over investors' eyes. We also know that "senior nanagement and the auditors" (Arthur Andersen) were given warning signals in the shape of "instances" which came to light in 1995 of long-term supplier relates being

booked as instant profits.

And yet it was a full six months, probably longer, before Wickes decided to share these interesting titbits with the outside

Where was the audit committee, you and ask. Where, for that matter, were the non-executive directors, including the present chairman, while all this was going on? key were never properly informed, is the lawyer-approved answer.

Very well, then who pays the price?

Brentano, explaining how shareholders with a £2.9m pension, one-third of his bonuses and an agreement that the company will make no claim against him. Ditto the former finance director and group administration director. Which just leaves two directors of the buying department of a group subsidiary and an unspecified number of middle-ranking managers and junior employees to carry the can.

It may be the case that pursuing lawsuits against tormer directors would have been an extravagant distraction when the more urgent task is to save the ship. That is going

to take some doing.

Set against the misdemeanours of the past. the revelation that shareholders will have to take a further £10m hit on Wickes' costly disposals of Builder's Mate and Hunter Timber seems small beer.

All the same, the extra write downs have conspired to blow to bits what little remained of shareholders' funds. Meanwhile net debt is £65m and losses are piling up at the trad-

The proposed solution is to shore up the balance sheet with a £30m rights issue once the directors get around to refiling the 1994 and 1995 accounts.

But having been kept largely in the dark for four months and deprived of the opportunity to bale out of the stock since its suspension in June, why should any shareholder want to join Mr von Brentano in his mission impossible to "build a new business ethic"

BAe partner wins bid for Thomson

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

British Aerospace's drive to lead the rationalisation of the European defence industry was given a huge boost yesterday when its French missiles partner, Lagadère, was chosen as the preferred bidder in the privatisation of Thomson, the country's state-owned defence

and electronics giant. The decision was widely seen s:a set-back for GEC, which close links with the rival bidder for Thomson, the industrial group Alcatel Alsthom. The news sent shares in BAe surg-ing ahead, ending the day 19p

higher at 1132.5p, while shares in GEC fell 11.5p to 386.5p.
Chris Avery a leading aerospace analysi from the French banking group Paribas, said: suner electronics division, will table as the European defence in-

dustry consolidates. GEC will have to be invited along later." The French government said

it wanted to conclude the sale of Thomson by the end of the year and pledged to inject Fr11bn (£1.3bn) to rebuild the state-owned company's capital base, a bigger sum than analysts had expected. Thomson has debts of Fr25bn.

Facing repeated questioning at a press conference in Paris, ministers refused to explain why they had chosen Lagadère's strategy or to reveal the value of the rival bids. The offer will now be be scrutinised by European Commission and the government's privatisation com-

"BAe now has the first seat at the be sold to Daewoo, the South Korean industrial conglomerate.

Within minutes of the announcement hundreds of angry Thomson employees demonstrated

outside the Paris headquarters. The deal would pave the way for a merger of Thomson-CSF, the group's defence arm with sales last year of Fr35bn and after-tax losses of Fr700m, with Lagadère's defence subsidiary,

Though Lagadère had previously played down the level of British involvement in such a venture during the bidding process, it comes as a clear success for BAe, which is developing a £1bn guided missiles joint venture with the French group. Sir Dick Evans, BAe's chief ex-

ecutive, has forecast that the European defence sector would have consolidated into two or three key players by the turn of the century following the lead set by contractors in the United States. But he ruled out a merger



Sir Dick Evans: Forecast two or three key players by 2000

with GEC for at least 12 months. However GEC insisted it was not disappointed at the outcome of the Thomson bid battle David Newlands, the finance director, stressed that GEC also had partnerships with Lagadère and Thomson as well as its relationship with Alcatel Alsthom.

These include a recently forged joint venture with Thomson to annual sales of £300m. "This announcement merely moves a state company into the private sector. As such it doesn't really rationalise the European defence industry at all," he said.

Policy terms and conditions are available upon request.

Pearson seeks sale of £440m BSkyB stake

Media Editor

Pearson, the giant media conglomerate, has stepped up efforts to realise a gain of £440m through the sale of its remaining shares in BSkyB, Rupert Murdoch's satellite company. The shares are held through

the rump of the old British Satellite Broadcasting (BSBH), and represent 14 per cent of BSkyB. The stake is worth £1.5bn. Pearson's indirect stake is about 4 per cent, worth £440m at Sky's current record-breaking share price. Other shareholders in BSBH are Pathe, the French media company, and Granada, Gerry Robinson's hotels and media conglomerate. According to sources at Pear-

son and Granada, a team of accountants have been working on ways to wind up the BSBH holding for the past three months. Initial concerns about tax implications have now been ad-

gains during the current year in part to offset the effects of a large write-down in its controversial investment in Mindscape, the troubled US CD-Rom company. "If they can cash out of BSkyB, then they will be able to crossaccount this with something

else," said one leading analyst. He added: "They could clear all this out this year, and hand over to the new man with a clean slate," Frank Barlow, the current managing director, is to step down by April next year, and a new chief executive is expected to be named, perhaps by

Pearson sold its direct 8.5 per cent holding in BSkvB in Sephas exaggerated the share price tember last year, realising rise. A sale by Pearson of its £492m. Had it waited until this BSBH shares could help allevi-

dressed, but there are still dif- in BSkyB shares since early ficulties in separating the direct and indirect holdings.

According to media analysts, Pearson is intent on realising to get another £440m [from the

BSBH stake], "said one analyst, "But remember, they left a lot more than than on the table when they sold their [direct] stake so early.

Neither Pathe nor Granada intends to sell its BSkyB shares once the holding company is wound up. Pearson, however, would seek to place the shares as soon as possible.

BSkvB's shares have nearly doubled since January, fuelled by the company's rising profits, receding regulatory wornes and the successful renewal of a contract to broadcast Premiership matches. Analysts point out that the stock's relatively restrained free float - only about 25 per cent -

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American Express Services Europe Limited, Reg. Office, Portland House, 1 Stag Place, London SWIE 5BZ, Reg. No. 1833139.

Butler-Wheelhouse is cruising comfortably at Smiths

Keith Butler-Wheelhouse knows he is a lucky man. The former boss at its before one-off items to £165m, up Saab cars takes the controls as chief 19 per cent, in the year to 3 August. executive of Smiths Industries next

Under his predecessor, Sir Roger Hurn, Smiths has been transformed from a highly cyclical civilian and military aerospace group into three just over a quarter of profits, the main separately run divisions, including driver of growth is the increased profmedical equipment and industrial products such as ventilation fans and

flexible tubing.

The unfashionable move – the antithesis of the demerger craze ber of its short-haul 737 aircraft prosweeping the City - has served investors well, the shares having outperformed a soaring stock market by more than a quarter in the past

Smiths' track record on acquisitions is second to none. Strong cashflow has enabled it to splash out £475m over six years, expanding its medical and industrial products activities without tapping shareholders for money.

Last year was no exception as £98m was spent buying three bolt- dried up completely this year for the idend of 10p per share for the secon businesses, including Level 1, a US manufacturer of blood and fluses to resume next year. Clike-for-lile id-warming systems.

Though growth has been super-

In aerospace, still the largest di-vision by sales if only accounting for itability of the world's airlines and

duced from 76 this year to 160 by the end of the decade. Smiths receives

Despite the acquisition spree, the healthy and the company claims its

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY NIGEL COPE

rent year and £215m in 1998. With

pre-tax profits of £190m for the curthe shares up 12p to 803.5p, that implies a p/e ratio falling from 19 to 17. A fair rating for a quality stock.

their need to replace old planes.
Smiths expects Boeing, its biggest customer, to almost double the num-

up to \$450,000 for supplying each Graham Kirkham of DFS Furniture plane with electrical equipment. It is a similar picture with Boeing's new generation of wide-bodied 777 jets, where production is set to jump from 32 this year to 70 by 1999.

The outlook on the military side is more mixed, with the German government dragging its feet over the Eurofigher project. Orders for fighter or planes from the US Air Force to 10p. There was also a special dividend of 10p per share for the sec-

Like-for-like sales increases are

been a wonderful investment — in the company's prospects, it will year the company will carry £1.5m they have doubled in their two cast a shadow over the share price of additional training and developyears on the stock market - there and soak up any institutional are certain worries. One is the demand for the shares. plans by Sir Graham's two children

Five Year record Year to 3 and-buly

11.3 11.9 13.0 14.4 16.2

Then there is the cost of the

Share price peace

SMITHS INDUSTRIES : AT A GLANCE

Market value: £2,42bn, share price 803.5p

which is exerting pressure on margins. DFS opened its first three stores in the London region earlier stores in the London region earnier this year and now sees scope for up the avionics supplier looks set fair for at least another few years of good growth.

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their auditors of some his predecessor in the London area are to sell much of their 22 per cent to 20. The higher costs meant op
their auditors of some his predeces of the predeces of thei ment costs with seven new stores due open towards the end of this financial year.

expansion into the South-east,

But the prospects remain bright. With 38 stores, DFS claims 9 per cent of the UK upholstery market. Its aim is a nationwide network of around 100 stores which would give it a share of around 25 per cent. Analysts are expecting profits of around £38m this year. With the shares 22p lower yesterday at 514.5p, they trade on a premium rating of 22. Expensive but a strong hold.

Questions for **Burn Stewart**

For whisky distiller Burn Stewart to publish its delayed results on the investigation into accounting swers, the shares are best avoided.

irregularities was unfortunate, to

say the least. But Burn Stewart's directors rather made themselves a hostage to for the year to June, due on 2 Oct-ober, was deferred for a fortnight

In the event, pre-tax profits collapsed 74 per cent to £1m and the dividend was cut from 5p to 3.4p.

The accounting item in question – believed to relate to the treatment of whisky stocks handled by a con-sultant for the Chinese market - was responsible for an estimated £3m of the profits shortfall.

The City's reaction was swift with the shares marked down 7.5p to 74p, their lowest level since Burn Stewart joined the stock market at 140p five years ago. In that time sales have grown from £38m to £54m but profits have shrunk from a peak of over £10m in 1992 as the whisky price war took its toll. How directors can square this record with the "remarkable progress" they claim to

have made in recent years is not clear. The report and accounts may same day as DIY retailer Wickes throw more light on these issue. And revealed details of a four-month until Burn Stewart provides more and



Fresh doubts over alcopops effect on cider

City Editor

Fresh evidence has emerged to brokers that total cider consupport the widely held view that the problems affecting cider maker Matthew Clark this summer have been only partly due year that boosted demands, conto the dramatic rise in popularity of alcopops. Recently commissioned research suggests that, contrary to Clark's claims, the cider market is growing fast but lack of investment in brands has quickly eroded the company's share of the sector.

Its arch-rival HP Bulmer has just finished a round of presentations to industry analysts in which it has attempted to re-assure the City that Matthew Clark's problems are specific to the company and do not signal a bursting of the cider bubble rapidly in the 1990s.

Matthew Clark stunned investors earlier in the summer when it warned that the expo-nential growth of alcoholic "soft" share from across the trum of alcoholic drinks. drinks such as Bass's Hoopers Dogs had caused a sharp reduction in demand for its core

and K, and for Babycham.
Shares in the company, which
has expanded rapidly in recent
years through the acquisitions of Gaymers and Taunton, slumped 239p to 431p on the day of its an-

mual meeting, when it issued the warning, and have since fallen further. Bulmer has been telling sumption in the UK continued to increase this year. Adjusted for the exceptional hot weather last sumption is forecast to have increased from 110 million gallons in 1995 to 116 million this year. In 1990 the market was only 75

million gallons.

Within that overall marked however, the performances of active major producers, who between them control about 90 per cent of the sector, have diverged dramatically. Through the supermarkets, an important outlet for cider, sales of Strongbow are running 30 per cent ahead of last year while Diamond White has declined by 24 per cent. Matthew Clark has blamed alcopops but analysts believe that does not tell the whole story. Alcopops are now thought to have taken share from across the spec-

Almost a quarter of alcopop Hooch and Merrydown's Two drinkers have said that were the new drinks not available they would drink bottled lagers, and cider brands, Diamond White 19 per cent would turn to draught lager. By contrast, only 10 per cent said they were drinking alcopops instead of bottled cider, while the equivalent figure for draught cider was 5 per cent.

In Brief

 Pizza Express is buying up to 33 restaurants for £25m, funded by an issue of 5.7 million shares at 475p each in the US and the UK. The company said the acquisition was expected to be immediately earnings enhancing and the fund raising would allow the opening of 25 restaurants a year to be financed internally. Luke Johnson, chairman, said the acquisition created a "substantially more coherent group".

 Devro has made an £11.1m offer for the outstanding minority shareholding in Cutisin, a Czech manufacturer of edible and non-edible collagen casings. Devro holds 56.5 per cent of Cutisin which, Devro said, provided a low-cost manufacturing base to supply Eastern European and, increasingly. Western markets.

 Jurys Hotel has paid £1.75m for a one-acre freehold site at Pentonville Road, central London, with full planning permission to build a 168-bedroom Jurys Inn. "We envisage that it will cost £10m, including the site cost, to build, averaging £59,500 per room," a spokesman said. Jurys will also develop a 151-bedroom Inn for £7.5m on the banks of the River Shannon, Limerick, creating 80 jobs.

 Rank Organisation's recommended cash offer for Tom Cobleigh is unconditional in all respects. Valid acceptances of the offer have been received in respect of 33.82 million Tom Cobleigh shares, representing 84.9 per cent of the company's equity.

 Derwent Valley Holdings has exchanged contracts to purchase the freehold interests of Evelyn House and Dumharton House, 54-68 Oxford Street and 51-57 Rathbone Place, in central London from London & Manchester Assurance for £20m.

 Daily Mail and General Trust has bought Radio Albury-Wodon Trust Has Brade Radio Albury Trust Has Brade Radio Albury Trust H • Daily Man and General Trust has occur trained Floury-woodings, which operates two regional radio stations in Australia, for A59m (£4.5m) cash. The acquisition is being made by Broadcast Media Group, in which DMGT has an 85 per cent stake.

 Glenmorangie has appointed Iain Hamilton finance director.

Mr Hamilton, currently UK finance director and European financial controller for SCI Europe, will join the company on 6 January.

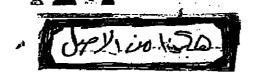
• Blockleys, the building materials group, reduced half-year pre-tax losses from £211,000 to £54,000, but said the period was the worst ever recorded in the brick industry. Despatches of bricks were 8 per cent down, and almost 6 per cent lower than the industry's previous worst period in 1992. There is no interim dividend.

 Bridport-Gundry, maker of medical, aviation and defence, sports and industrial and marine products, has conditionally agreed to make three acquisitions for a total of £11.95m. The acquisitions make three acquisitions for a total of all line acquisitions are Militair Aviation, Avery Flight International and Safetywear.

Most of the funding for the deals will come from a 3-for-4 rights. issue at 130p a share, raising £9.1m. Bridport also announced that pre-tax profits for the year ending 31 July had risen 9 per cent to £1.45m on turnover of £30.3m, up from £28.4m.

• La Senza, the lingerie retailer, plans to open seven shops next month; including its first outlets in central London. A 15-year lease has been signed for a shop in the capital's Oxford Street.

Ashbourne has bought three nursing homes for £5.9m cash.
 The homes are in Bolton, Cambridge and Upminster.



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Banks, Retail

Allied prepares to walk out of the last chance saloon Allied Domecq and, yet again, Zeneca dominated a stock market which at last appeared

to be feeling the strain of its record-breaking exertions. Indications a large pro-gramme trade had left stock slushing around the system coupled with the Dow Jones Average slipping below its just-achieved 6,000 points pulled prices lower, probably encouraging some investors to

lock in a few profits. But such negative considerations were lost on the booze and drug combination of Allied and Zeneca. Indeed Allied enjuyed a strong ferment of stones, pushing the shares

25.5p higher to 482.5p.
Bid action, preceded by a
dawn raid today, was one. Seagram, the Canadian spirits group, was put in the frame. There was also talk of management changes and the long suspected demerger, producing stand-alone retail and spirit

companies, being announced. The deal with Bass over the Carlsberg Tetley brewing division was also an influence, with talk Whitehall was about

to clear the takeover. Another suggestion was Allied's top brass had lanched in the City, leaving an impression the group was performing bet-ter than expected.

But such stories were wide of the mark. It would be construed as particularly indis-creet if Allied enjoyed the City's hospitality with its results due next month.

There was, however, one possibly bullish development. Credit Lyonnais Laing, the securities house, was rumoured to have changed its stance on the shares - moving from hold to buy. It was said the house circular today.

planned to issue a favourable Allied has had a difficult time and it has been described as being "in the last chance sa-

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MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

loon. Its shares have been such weak performers, coming down from more than 550p this year, that a supportive investment house could, just, be

But with the market convinced Allied is set for dramatic changes under new chairman Sir Christopher Hogg, there must be a temptation to make sure any party is not missed. Zeneca did not enjoy such range of rumours. Just one - the perennial takeover story - was enough to lift the shares to a new peak, up 32.5p to 1,687.5p. Glavo Wellcome is re-emerging as the favourite to strike, although Roche, the

Swiss group, is never far from the speculation.

Tesco was another blue chip to buck the trend, although there was absolutely no suggestion of corporate activity. The shares rose 5p to 326.5p as Nat West Securities nudged its profit forecast a little higher and said the shares had become a buy. Rivals Safeway, enjoying UBS support, gained 4p to 354p.

Pilkington, the glass group, had a difficult session, falling 6.5p to 181p. The crack was prompted by worries about interim profits, due soon. The group has already warned that dull trading on the Continent was creating problems.

Tate & Lyle, the sugar group, turned sour, falling 13.5p to 483p. A US probe into alleged fixing of swectener prices and cautious comments from SBC Warburg did the

The FTSE 100 index slipped 26.4 points to 4,024.4 with the supporting Mid Cap index off 10.7 at 4,438.2. Television shares, still an-

ticipating a rush of takeover bids later this year, presented a bright picture with takeover favourites HTV and Yorkshire-Fine Tees higher. But BSkyB fell victim to the general lethergy, off 12p to 664.5p.

DFS, the furniture chain,

lost 22p to 514p as it became apparent margins were under pressure and the Kirkham family intended to sell more shares, another 22 per cent of the capital.

Ramco, the oil group, gained 44p to 705p on its link with Total and Mobil over its

turing and marketing services group, rose 2p to 35p as Hillsdown Holdings' departure from the share register was duly confirmed. Part of Hillsdown's 12.3 per cent stake has gone to Bentley International described as an investment company, and three directors including Sir Harry Solomon. Spring Ram, the bathroom group, responded to share

Regan, with a further 1.75p gain to 14.75p. VideoLogic added 3.5p to 57p as Merrill Lynch said buy and Micro Focus rose oup to 1,020p on US influences.

buying by its chairman, Roger

Financial Publishing, embracing stockbroker Durlachadded 15p to 265p following a sharp profits advance. The shares, placed last year at 38p, can claim to be

Azerbaijan development but Pex, the once alling sock the oil majors retreated again.

Princedale, the manufacmaker stepping out under the guidance of Italian aristocrat, firmed 0.25p to 6.75p as

Andrea Cattaneo Dello Volta, stockbroker Teather & Greenwood forecast continming recovery. After a long run of losses the company returned to the

year and Teather's Jon Levinson thinks the year's outcome will be a £480,000 He looks for £650,000 next

year and then £760,000.

black in the first half of this

Tele-Cine Cell, the film and video group, fell almost 18 per cent to 53.5p. The shares

were 125p in November. Profits have been under pressure and there are worries that the company will not be able to hit the £1.4m the market is expecting this

at the two pard come up with e plan. little chance of ties are deterp like town sinars is nure than iall," rejoined I, Allied Londrector "LAGA tow they are not aher uses. Well a hotel, a pul-

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Source FT information.

Calls cost 35p per minute (cheap rate), and 45p at all other times. Call of

Slowly but surely, the crisis in state pensions is coming

ne of the reasons politicians in the industrial countries are starting to sound very gung-ho about reducing government deficits is that the notion of a looming crisis in state pensions has finally filtered through to

It has taken several years of hammering away at the subject by international organisations such as the IMF, but at last, in countries such as Germany and Italy, even the most shorttermist of politicians knows that without changes in pension provision, politically thorny as that is, there could be a fiscal explosion before the end of their career.

The cause of the pension problem, approaching many governments with the slow inevitability of lava flow, is the combination of pay-as-yougo state pension schemes with demographic change. The number of pensioners in all developed countries is growing while in many, the working-age population paying the taxes to pay the pensions is

shrinking. The penny has dropped that pay-as-you-go schemes are unsustainable. The British government was one of the first to take action by encouraging people to opt out of a state scheme, which was made much less generous by being linked to prices rather than earnings, and set up a pri-

vate pension. If other countries follow the same route, and allow their unfunded state pension schemes to wither, there will be some big macroeconomic implications. One of the most important, and one which has been tackled by economists, is what will happen to national saving rates as a result of ageing populations and changes to pension systems. The other, so far under-researched, is what the implica-

tions for inequality will be. economics is that for every economist there is an equal

second law is that they are both wrong). So it is not too surprising to find that there is no definitive answer to the question of savings. To be fair, this is because it is an empirical question. There will be two opposing forces acting on national savings during the next few decades.

The first is the demographic impact. The standard theory about how people choose between spending and saving is the "life cycle hypothesis", which argues that early in their working life people borrow, in their prime years they save, and in retirement they run down their savings.

Aggregate this across a nation, and the theory predicts that saving will rise in countries with a growing working pop-ulation and fall where there is a growing number of the nonworking elderly. There is some evidence of a negative relationship between savings and the proportion of the old in the population for a cross-section of countries.

However, the demographics are a bit more complex. For the next 20 years or so, most industrial countries will see more saving by the working population, for the baby boom is still in its prime years. After that, national savings rates are likely to decline. But the outlook varies widely between countries and the amount of extra saving in the meantime could be huge.

A recent paper by David Miles, a professor at Imperial College, for the City investment bank Merrill Lynch, calculates that for the big four European economies savings rates will peak between 2010 and 2020 at rates 2-3 percentage points higher than their current levels. For the UK the peak comes

savings will not drop below the Of course, the first law of 1995 level until 2035, he The picture gets more com-

at 2.3 per cent above the 1995

rate of 20 per cent in 2010. But



DianeCoyle

The number of pensioners in all developed countries is growing while in many the population paying taxes to provide the pensions is

account of whether the simultaneous changes to state pension systems change patterns of saving. This question is addressed in a new book by Professor Richard Disney of Queen Mary College*.

shrinking

Prof Disney argues that the key feature of the change in pension systems is not the trend from state to private pensions, but the trend from defined benefit schemes to

Most private sector pensions were, until recently at least, defined benefit plans provided by companies. The economic purpose of a pension that guaranteed workers a given fraction of their final salary was to bind them to the company over a working

Of course, this has become more expensive as company workforces age. It does not suit younger workers either.

Private pensions are in-creasingly of the defined contribution type – essentially a personal savings plan with pensions determined by the return on the accumulated sav-

According to the book, the coverage of defined contribution schemes has almost doubled from 8 per cent of pension plans in 1987. Prof Disney writes: "Where

for pension provision the switch from a publicly or privately funded defined benefit plan to a group or individual defined contribution plan seems to involve the participant in much greater risks."

The risk of providing for retirement is switching not sim-

ply from the government to the private sector but from companies to individuals as The transition from pay-asyou-go state pensions to pri-vate pensions might reduce the national savings rate if it involves the government or pri-

vate sector in saving less or

borrowing more to meet the In addition, if people have a choice, they might well opt to pay less into their pensions. However, if the system to which industrial countries are switching places more risk on individuals, savings could

Anecdotally, it is clear that many people in Britain have already added provision for their old age as an extra burden to be saved for.

privatised its pensions in 1981 by introducing individual retirement savings plans, private sector saving soared from 0.2 per cent in 1981 to 12.7 per cent in 1989, more than offsetting a drop in public sector saving as the government stepped in to finance the unfunded pension obligations of the previous state scheme.

The real catch in the privatisation of pensions is distributional. If this issue is not addressed explicitly - and it is not - the costs of pension reform fall on the most vulnerable people.

In the UK there is a growing class of poor pensioners, with no private cover and a state pension which leaves them further and further behind the rest of the

population.
With the honourable ex-Prof Disney writes: "Where ception of the Labour MP there is an insurance motive Frank Field, whose new book on the subject of how to provide universal pension cover in a modern economy was published earlier this week, few politicians have addressed the distributional question.

Mr Field proposes compulsory individual saving for re-tirement and unemployment, restoring the insurance aspect of welfare, but has costed state provision of the means to save for people with incomes of less than £100 a week.

This proposal does involve extra taxes, however, even though some of the money needed would come from winding down the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme completely. For countries which have

traditionally used the tax and benefits system to redistribute income, the switch from unfunded to insurance-based pensions - or health-care or unemployment cover, for that matter - raises issues as thorny as the ones being left

"Can We Afford To Grow Older?" Richard Disney, MIT

The Lyceum is saved... for rock musical fans

The magnificent Lyreum Theatre near Covent Garden in London is about to reopen on 19 November after being : rebuilt by Apollo Leisure at a

cost of £14.5m. Two years ago Paul Gregg, chairman of Apollo and 80 per cent shareholder, bought the leasehold of the thenderelici theatre from the Theatres Trust. George Walker's Brent Walker had wanted to change the use of the theatre in the 1980s but never got permission from the Trust, and now the former stomping ground of such great Shake-spearean thespians as Henry Irving and Helen Terry is saved for the theatre.

Well, up to a point. The first production will be Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's Jesus Christ Superstar. Shakespeare it ain't.

George Simpson, managing director of GEC, obviously likes having familiar faces around him. Yesterday GEC appointed two of his former

colleagues to senior posts. Jack Fryer, who has been brought in as GEC's strategic planning director, worked with Mr Simpson at Lucas, Mr Simpson's last job. Rob Meakin, who becomes personnel director, comes from British Aerospace, where Mr

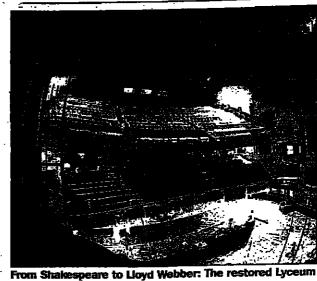
Simpson was before Lucas. Mr Fryer should be on top of the figures side of strategic planning - he began his ca-reer as a nuclear physicist with Rolls-Royce.

Mr Meakin certainly has a CV which would make any personnel manager quake; be worked with Ford Motor Company in the strikeplagued 1970s, then with British Leyland and Rover.

Keith Butler-Wheelhouse ioined Smiths Industries as a director in August, and will take over from Sir Roger Hurn as chief executive from 19 November, Şir Roger will remain as chairman of the

aerospace group. Stepping into the Smiths

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Wheelhouse said-how nice it was "coming into a business which doesn't need much

doing to it".
What that says about the automotive side of Saab, where he was chief operating officer, I've no idea. The tanned native of the West Midlands emigrated to South Africa at the age of 15, and now aged 50 has the accent to

There's just one fly in the ointment at Smiths, he says: "I'm still trying to come to grips with these aerospace acronyms. I still find this al-phabet soup confusing." I see what he means. In

Smiths's results presentation yesterday, simplified for the consumption of journalists, the company mentioned JPATS, F/A-18C/Ds. Sims Level 1 and HMOs. Before you ask, I haven't a clue.

Don't worry, Mr Butler-Wheelhouse. Aerospace has nothing on accountancy when

it comes to acronyms. ICAEW, APB, FRC and Cima were all bandied about vesterday as Chris Swinson, a partner in BDO Stoy Hayward and the Orson Welles of addressed journalists on the

joys of self regulation.
The profession which audits our companies still insists that it can sort out its own wrongdoers in-house, without pesky intervention from the DTI and the like.

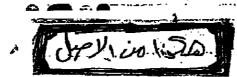
Mr Swinson was proposing a new independent body which would regulate the regulators. On the same panel was Norman Lyle, senior vice president of Cima, which represents

management accountants. Cima recently broke off merger talks with the chartered accountant's body, and evidently still harbours burt pride at what it sees as snobbery amongst the chartered brethren.

Every time Mr Swinson made a point, Mr Lyle broke in with a contradiction or a question. Things got so heated that there was audible relief

when the presentation ended. Everyone trooped into another room for lunchtime drinks, at which point Mr Swinson announced that no alcohol would be served. Just as well, opined the reporters, otherwise a fracas of some sort could well have ensued.

and opposite economist (the plicated when you try to take	defined contributions schemes. Certainly in Chile, which	Older?" Richard Disney, MIT Press £24.95 Stepping into the Smiths cockpit yesterday, Mr Butler-	ward and the Orson Welles of the accountancy world, John Willowski
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Goldman Sachs creates new posts for partners to be

Banking Correspondent

Goldman Sachs, the secretive US investment bank, yesterday elevated 38 of its top executives to the hotly contested position of partner, which virtually guarantees millionaire status.

The new partners, who are locked into the riches of the multi-million pound investment bank with an equity stake, were joined for the first time by 87 managing directors who are being groomed as future partners.

These new, non-partnership positions. called "extended managing directors", were created by the bank to deter highflyers below partnership status from quitting for rival firms.

The bank, owned by 170 or so partners who are named every two years, is 127 years old and has a reputation as a bardhitting, gruelling place to work, where the rewards are generous.

The partners are paid a hefty basic salary but forego the bonuses of their lower-ranking colleagues, which can top £1m, in return for a profitable stake

Partners share in the profits of the bank, which in the first nine months of this year pro-

(£1.2bn), setting Goldman on course to beat 1993 when it created a host of millionaires with its bonus payouts. But much of their profit remains in the bank as risk capital until they retire.

In a year which is already promising to reward the City's top dealers, traders and corporate financiers with record bonuses, the Goldman partners and managing directors can be certain of astronomical rewards.

Some of the managing directors named vesterday will al-ready be receiving basic salaries of £1m, even before bonuses are calculated next month.

Of the 38 new partners, eight are based in the bank's London office in Fleet Street and two are Britons - Glenn Earle, an investment banker based in Frankfurt and London-based Paul Deighton.

The other seven new partners based in London were named as Erland Karlsson and Girish Reddy, both in the bank's equi-ties division, Ronald Marks from fixed income, investment bankers Timothy Plaut, Muneer Satter and Howard Schiller, and Geoffrey Grant from J Aron, the bank's commodity unit.

Nine Britons rank among the new non-partner managing duced taxable earnings of \$1.9bn directors, who will be receiving

basic salaries ranging from £200,000 to £1m, with the lower salaries typically paid to researchers rather than proprietary traders - usually the highest-paid group in an investment bank.

Andrew Devenport, based in Tokyo in the bank's fixed income department, is one of the Britons becoming a non-partner managing director. He is joined by New York-based Briton Peter Niculescu who is also a fixed income specialists.

The other Britons are based in Fleet Street. They are Charles Eve and Louis Greig, who are both in the equities di vision, Sion Kearsey, a fixed income specialist, corporate financiers Christopher French and Charles Brown, Christian Siva-Jothy from J Aron and Roderick Jack from Goldman Sachs Asset Management.

Other London-based executives were granted non-partner managing director roles. They are Thomas Brasco, David Kaplan, Emmanuel Roman, Danie Roscini, Antonie Schwartz, Noreen Harrington, Jean-Luc Blamonti, Andrew Chisholm. Claudio Coslamagna. Pieter Maarten Feenstra, Richard Gnodde, Susan Leadem and Theodore Sotir.



Warning: Sir Michael Heron says that for every 1 per cent of business the Royal Mail loses in the suspension of its monopoly 1,500 jobs will be threatened

Royal Mail jobs 'under threat'

Michael Harrison

The Royal-Mail could lose 20 long term if its letter monopoly is suspended again later this month, threatening jobs and profits and forcing up postal prices, MPs are to be warned by Post Office chiefs.

Sir Michael Heron, the Post Office chairman, is to supply the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee with a confidential financial model it has drawn up showing the potential impact if the Government suspends the monopoly for an extended period.

For every 1 per cent of business the Royal Mail loses, 1,500 jobs will be threatened, Sir Michael told MPs on the committee yesterday, adding that it "would not take a lot" for rival operators to snatch 3 per cent of deliveries if the market was

opened up.
Ministers will suspend the monopoly for a period of three months if members of the Communication Workers Union vote for further industrial action in a ballot later this month. The result of the ballot will be known on 29 October.

The series of strikes this auturnn by the CWU has so far cost the Post Office £40m in lost business and resulted in its monopoly being suspended for short periods.

However, Post Office execunopoly is suspended for three year to £317m in 1997-98.

months then it will open the floodgates as the Government will find it impossible to re-imper cent of its business in the pose the monopoly once private operators are offering rival

> Local courier firms could enter the market immediately. offering to deliver Christmas post in selected areas, while bigger operators such as TNT would target luctative customers such as banks, building societies and mail order firms by offering a national service. In written evidence to the

committee, the Post Office says that a three-month suspension would not in itself be "immediately threatening". But it adds that an indefinite suspension resulting in a free-for-all would be "raise the question of how a universal service at a uniform tariff could be funded. Were there to be a long term suspension of the monopoly then the Post Office would have to price competitively and this would benefit some cus-

tomers at the expense of others." Sir Michael also repeated his call for greater commercial freedom, saying it would be a "tremendous step forward" if the Government gave the Post Office the status of a public limited company and freed it from the PSBR so that its external fimancing limit - its contribution to the Exchequer-instead became a dividend payment set at 40-50 per cent of post-tax profits.

Under current plans the EFL tives believe that if the mo- is due to rise from £298m this

Brewers rally against property depreciation plan

Roger Trapp

Brewers and hotel chains are expected to lobby against proposals from the Accounting Standards Board for tightening up on the valuation of tangible fixed assets.

The discussion paper issued the board today takes the view that, since it is normally uneconomic to provide a limitless

extension to the life of a property, such as a hotel or public house, through maintenance and refurbishment, there should be "a general requirement for depreciation of properties".

However, brewers are prominent among the approximately 18 per cent of companies that are said to not depreciate their

large amounts each year on maintaining properties in good condition, having to depreciate them as well would amount to "a double hit". They also claim that certain properties, such as well-known hotels and pubs, are of historic value and should not

be depreciated. The ASB also believes that properties. They argue that, because they traditionally spend three categories for deprecia-

tion purposes: land would not its recoverable amount. It arbe subject to depreciation, gues that the unclear position buildings would have a long life, and general fittings would have

a much shorter life. In its consideration of the "initial measurement" of assets, the document envisages a continuation of the practice of measuring a tangible fixed as-set initially at its cost and writing it down where necessary to

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on the capitalisation of interest should be resolved and that capitalisation either be mandatory or prohibited. The ASB invites comments on which approach should be adopted by the close of the consultation period on 17

January 1997. On valuation, the ASB proposes that companies that reval-

ue properties should have to undergo a full external valuation at least every five years, with interim valuations, involving less work, in the intervening years. The fourth area covered by the document is investment properties. These are exempt

should continue to be exempt.

from depreciation, and the ASB accepts that as they play a fundamentally different role they

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Accountants' plans for new regulatory board under attack

Plans by leading accountancy bodies to set up an independent review board to supervise their regulatory activities were last night attacked as a holding tactic that "will not satisfy any-

Prem Sikka. accountancy professor at Essex University and a fervent critic of the accountancy profession, said the proposals published yesterday did not amount to independent regulation. The planned review board was "just an umbrella body" and the regulatory powers of such organisations as the Institute of Chartered Accountants would remain with them, he said, suggesting the move was an attempt to "ap-

Yesterday's detailed proposals by a working party chaired by Chris Swinson, of accountants BDO Stoy Hayward, followed the announcement in April of the intention to establish an organisation that would be independent of the accoun-

The working party was drawn from all six bodies that form the Consultative Committee of Ac-countancy Bodies. But the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, which last year was in merger talks with the Institute of Chartered Accountants, made clear it had reservations about the plans.
It particularly wants the Au-

tancy profession. which the plans would amount

diting Practices Board, the body provement where necessary.

pease" an incoming govern- that sets standards for auditors, to be given greater independence by being placed alongside the Accounting Standards Board under the Financial Reporting Council rather than within the ambit of the new review board. But it also shares some reservations expressed by senior members of the prossion about the extent to

> to clear independent regulation. The review board's objectives would be to ensure that the systems of regulation and discipline within the profession serve the public interest by maintaining the standards of work by professional accountants and to criticise what has been done and make recommendations for im-

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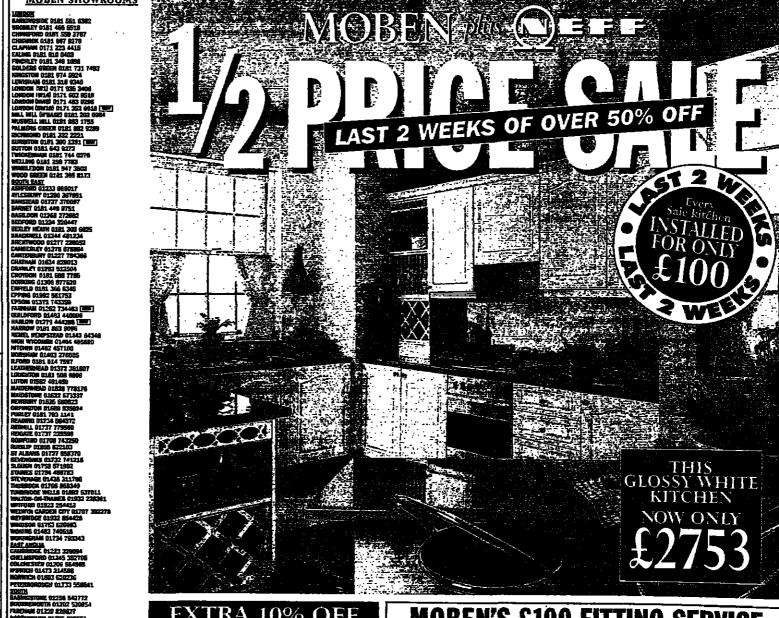
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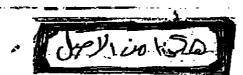


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Damon Hill poses at Marble Arch, central London, yesterday to enjoy the attention brought by his world championship success

Hill wallows in public recognition

The last lap was the best of all, bringing him back home to the embrace of his family and many of the fans who jumped on board somewhere along the way.

Damon Hill was in London again, loving every minute of it. the wider impact of his world championship triumph beginning to seep through the euphoria that had accompanied him from Japan.

This was essentially pay-back time to the sponsors, another barrage of questions, no doubt the same questions that had beaten his eardrums and rattled his brain cells ever since Sunday's victory at Suzuka. And yet it was probably all the sweeter for an element of surprise, an unlikely encounter with the ti-

tle-winner for a couple of hundred folk otherwise going about their day: a mother and daughter down from Scotland, jumping off their bus because they saw his car, yes, the Williams-Renault, parked at Marble Arch: the German who made it known he was a Michael Schumacher supporter but seemed

content to be there anyway. Here was the final vindication, the public acclaim and recognition. The young man who had fizzed around the streets of the capital as a despatch rider, funding his racing ambition and seeking new sponsors, was now the 36-yearold world champion, perched at the peak of his career.

Relief was evident in every

A champion finally has the chance to revel in his success. **Derick Allsop** reports

smile, every joke, every response. There was just a hint of a side-swipe at Williams, for having discarded him as he stood at the threshold of title success. But there was also due acknowledgment of the expertise and even-handedness of Formula One's premier team. And there was a balanced, realistic consideration of his possibilities next season, as No 1 driver for the TWR Arrows team.

"I'm still flying. I haven't come down yet. I'm coming down in layers, day by day. Somebody showed me a copy of this week's Autosport. I've been reading it all moment Nigel Mansell left I was

my life and I've been creeping through the pages during my career. Now it says I'm champion on the front, and it's fantastic. I

think I'll get this copy framed." That is what it means. He was reminded of his days as a despatch rider. "I always had the intention of getting off bikes, even though I loved it. It was always part of my plan to

The realisation that the championship might beckon came to him when he was propushing like mad. I thought: Tm on my way here."

Williams discarding him for 1997 "wasn't quite the pat on the back I'd been expecting. But I re-ally had the rug pulled from under me, but the only thing that concerned me this year was the championship and I decided I'd rather go away with something."

That resolve armed him against those who questioned his ability. He said: "It's part of the business, being sniped at. But all the reports have been jolly nice since Sunday. It's in the record books, it's there for ever."

He had done, he felt, as much as he could, even in the best car, winning half the races. The only way to top this was to go one better, but no, he was not

in competition with his late father, Graham, who won the championship in 1962 and 1968. "He died 21 years ago and I long since handled that emotion."

A second championship has to be a long-term project, anyway. If he helps make Arrows a competitive team next season, he will have achieved perhaps as much as he has this year. "I take the challenge next year that is defined by whatever the re-

ality is," he said. And now he really was finished. He was off for a break, away from the cockpit, to relive the season, to see a tape of that Japanese Grand Prix, and simply wallow in motor racing's ultimate glory. And no, that can never be taken away.

Elder Iro fires Kiwis' heart

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD reports from Auckland

You could have got handsome odds a couple of years ago on Tony Iro's Test career carrying on longer than that of his infinitely more glamorous younger brother. But while Leeds' enigmatic Kevin Iro drifts around beyond the fringes of the New Zealand squad, Tony will tomorrow night be part of a back row that threatens all manner of problems for Great Britain in the first Test at Ericsson Stadium.

The elder Iro typifies the knack that the Kiwi coach, Frank Endacott, seems to be developing for extracting valuable contributions from some unlikely sources. Tony certainly falls into that unlikely category. He only decided to dabble in rugby league because he had pany for Kevin when he took up a Wigan contract in 1987 that made bim the best-paid young player in the game.

In his own quiet way, Tony es-tablished himself at Wigan as a winger, before going to Australia and transforming into a secondrow forward. It is in the past two seasons, under Phil Gould's coaching at Sydney City, that the change into a skilful ball handler has become complete.

"We've had a good side there which has helped me to develop that part of my game," Iro says. "I got forced into the role in England during the World Cup last year when there were not many other options. I'm still learning what Frank wants from me."

Iro is already producing some of the best rugby of his career at the age of 29 and forms a potentially destructive back three with Steve Kearney and Tyran Smith, a rangy, dreadlocked runner who starts a Test for the first time tomorrow.

Iro, however, knows enough about the English scene to be wary of predictions that New Zealand, following their impressive victories over Papua New Guinea, are going to be far too strong for the Lions. "There are a lot of blokes

who we didn't expect to see over here," he admits when he scans the names in a withdrawal-hit

British party. "But they are a young team who will be pretty keen. It's going to be a lot close er than the papers here think. Great Britain will not mind

their hosts starting the series as favourites. When the Kiwis clicked in the second half of their World Cup semi-final against Australia in October they showed their rich potential and have built to that promise.

They have particular strengths at full-back, through their captain, Matthew Ridge, and in their two wingers, Sean Hoppe and Richard Barnett, while Grant Young and the substitute, Joe Vagana, are front rowers of power and vigour.

The other reason for the Kiwis to be regarded here as a sure thing is that the New Zealand public have seen nothing from the tourists yet to impress them. The British first-choice's failure to fire in their opening game in Auckland is far more significant than the second string's defeat in Wellington on Tuesday.

But midweek games in New Zealand are a notoriously bad guide to Test form. "The result in Wellington doesn't worry us at all," the Great Britain coach. Phil Larder, said. "It's like being in a major final and your reserve team losing the previous week. That's how relevant it is."

As he tries to prove that contention, however, Larder does promote one player from that beaten side, the Wigan prop, Terry O'Connor, who gets his second chance at Test level.

"Terry came away as a firstchoice prop and played in the Test in PNG, but he had a very poor game when he was particularly badly affected by the heat and humidity," said Larder. "He has played very well in the midweek side since then and I had virtually made up my mind before the Wellington match to bring him in. His work in attack and defence in that game just confirmed it for me.

NEW ZEALAND (v Great Britain, first Tes

FORMULA 1 DREAM TEAM The final scores and results

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Petrol Heads

Bilbie Racing

God's Son

Maddisons

Sherbie's Stars

Catch Me One

French Flyers

Tamar Racing

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The Pits

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Tony's Omega One

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Pippa's Pole Position

Kwest International

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Mr Charles Rowe 34 Mr E Morgan 35 Mr Owen Sherbourne 36 Mr John Gallagher 37 38 Mr M Doonar **Mr Antony Panacides** Mr Paul Gold Mr Michael Armou 42 Mr Chrysosbalis 43 Mr John Parker 45 Mr Tim Howel Mr A Hardy Ms Nicola Roger 47

Mr K West

Mr Peter Greeni

Mr Scott Tankard

48

oday we publish the final scores and results in The In-Top 50 Teams: final positions dependent and F1 Racing Formula 1 Dream Team game. We are also announcing the winner of our Japanese Grand Prix prize and our 1996 grand prix champion Mino's Marauders Dream Team manager. Listed on the right you will find Dan's Reckless Racers Formula Fantastic

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the points scored for the Japanese Grand Prix, plus the overall points for the 1996 grand prix season. Listed on the left are the final Top 50 Dream Teams after the 1996 grand prix championship season. Final Dream Team positions

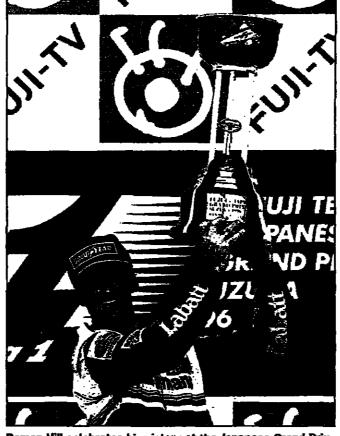
have been allocated according to the Rules and details on how to enter. Therefore the winner is the entrant who has the highest number of points at the end of the grand prix season. In the event of a tie, the tie-breaker is taken into account. When registering your Dream Team at the beginning of the season, you were asked to predict the number of points that this year's champion would notch up over the year. The nearest figure to the champion's points wins. In the event of a further tie, the entrant that registered first wins.

Season Summary

Among all the hoopla surrounding Damon Hill's victory at Suzuka, spare a thought for Mika 65 I Hakkinen. Almost exactly a year ago he lay in a coma in an Australian hospital. Now he was back to his boy-racer best, slugging it out with the world champion and the world-champion-elect, and sharing the podium with them both. Driver of the Day, and as brave as ever. But by every measure, the Driver of the Season is also the 65 I world champion. Damon Hill. Naturally, in Dream Team terms, he was also top dog, with a mag-nificent total of 352 points.

Managers who snapped him up for £23 million at the start of the season will consider it money well spent: by way of comparison, the other £23m-rated driver, Jean Alesi, scored 140 Dream Team points fewer than Hill, and capped his miserable season by destroying his Benetton at the first corner in Suzuka.

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Damon Hill celebrates his victory at the Japanese Grand Prix

of Pedro Diniz and Olivier Panis

both available at £4m and

contributing 61 and 103 points

respectively. Crummy value at the same price - and Hill fans take

note - was the leading driver of

the Arrows team, Jos Verstappen,

Jacques Villeneuve, whose hopes of a debut title disappeared along with his right rear wheel on Sunday, was outstanding value for £18m - he will not be so cheap next year, when he is sure to start favourite for the title.

who amassed a feeble 10 points Best value among the minnows were surely the Ligier pair all season.

1996 Grand Prix Champion Dream Team Managhir Congratulations to our winner Michael Roe from Slough, Berkshire and his team DSC. Michael was one of 35 people in joint 1st place, but he clinched our top prize by being the only first placed entrant who correctly predicted the number of points that this year's champion would notch up over the year. The champion is of course Damon Hill who scored 97 points.

Michael's prize is a drive in a 650bhp Formula 1 car. He will be flown to the AGS team's training school in the south of France which specialises in Formula One courses, and will be provided with all the racewear and instruction necessary for a day out driving Formula One and other single scat cars.

JAPANESE GRAND PRIX PRIZE WINNER

Congratulations to Ashley Kendall from King's Lynn, Norfolk and his team Ronnie's Beard. He and a friend have won a day out testing with the Tyrrell Formula One team at Silverstone.

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Grand Prix Shopping List

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Shaamit's track career ended by tendon injury

GREG WOOD

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of Shaamit, the Derby winner, when he failed to win any of his and the Arc. three starts after Epsom, but that hope too was dashed yesterday when it was announced that William Haggas's colt has been retired as the result of an injury sustained in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Long-

champ earlier this month. horse this century to win the Derby on his seasonal debut, and while that immense promise was not fully realised later in the season, Haggas had long insisted that, like his sire Mtoto, he would be a far bet-

ter four-year-old. His best per- ons, and for him the news was much improvement was exformance after the premier Classic was in finishing third to Pentire in the King George VI "There's always next year" was and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at the consoling thought for fans Ascot, while he was unplaced in both the Irish Champion Stakes

It was in the latter race that Shaamit suffered the injury which would end his career. "Fears that a knock received in the Arc might have caused Arc de Triomphe at Long-hamp earlier this month. Shaamit was only the third orse this century to win the more damage than mere bruishas been retired after injuring

Unlike some of his Newmarket neighbours, Haggas's relatively small string is not riddled with potential champi-

particularly painful. "I am very upset, and now we have got to go and find another star," he said. "The injury is not so bad and I'm sure a lot of time will cure it, but you can't afford to take a year off with a horse like him. It is such a pity because I said all along he would get bet-

ter as he got older, and no-one

will see that now." Stud plans for Shaamit have yet to be finalised, though Wadham is in little doubt that his future is bright. "He is by Britain's leading sire out of a Habitat mare, so as well as being a horse of exceptional good looks and conformation, he is a complete outcross to Northern Dancer. His performances as a threeyear-old are all the more meritorious when you consider how

pected of him."

Shaamit is the sixth Derby winner in the last 20 years to be retired without winning another race. His final career record shows six outings and just two successes - he won the second of his two races as a juvenile but the form of his Derby victory has looked much stronger since Shantou, third at Epsom, won the St Leger at Doncaster last month.

For all the talk of the Classic's decline in recent years, nothing excites thoroughbred breeders quite like a Derby winner.

We can only hope that, unlike every other Epsom winner of the 1990s, Shaamit will be allowed to improve the breed in Cecil can have faith in Bishop

What, Henry Cecil must be last time, but the form of his prepoint of training almost 200 horses when you cannot find even one to take on your biggest rival in a Group Two event half

a mile down the road? As his struggle with the Godolphin string for the trainers' title moves lowards its cli-.max. Cecil can only watch today as Charnwood Forest sets out to extend Godolphin's lead in the championship in the Challenge Stakes at Newmarket. Charmwood Forest is not far

behind the very best in Europe over a mile, but today's drop back to seven furlougs is not cer-tain to suit him. Lucayan Prince, by contrast, is ideally suited by this distance, but may not get the fast pace he requires, which leaves BISHOP OF CASHEL (nap, 3.40) as the likely winner. James Fanshawe's colt was a little disappointing at Longchamp

wondering this morning, is the vious victory at Doncaster gives him an outstanding chance. The day's most valuable race

is the fiercely-contested Two-Year-Old Trophy at Redcar. which tends to give smaller yards a fair crack of the whip That could be the case again toainst their better-known rivals. day, for while Jhazi (David Loder) and Much Commended (Geoff Wragg) go to post with good chances, Brian Mechan's Tomba (next best 2.55) should

have the beating of both. Back at Newmarket, there are any number of possible winners in the 12-furlong rated stakes, with Dear Life (2.35) just preferred to Polydamus and Zaralaska. Daring Flight (3.10) will be the value against Amyas in the nursery, but the final televised handicap is poor and one

NEWMARKET NEWMARKET 2.35: Wittle Conquer's fifth in a hot handicap at Ascot last time makes him difficult to oppose. Reg Akehunst's six-year-old had most of today's field behind him that day, including POLYDAMAS, who trailed in 16th. But that was the Michael Stoute-trained cold's first run since May and he showed significant im-HYPERION'S May and he showed significant im-provement to fmish second at Ascot

Godolphin four-year old is probably best at a mile but still has the class to take this Group Two event. 4.15: A race that looks best left alone

3.40: Traffic problems prevented Lucayan Prince from winning at As-cot last month and he will be backed cot last month and act will be backed here to gain compensation. Today's smaller field should help David Loder's coll, who needs to be held up for a late run. He will certainly need to be at his best, though, to catch CHARNWOOD FOREST The

for betting purposes. Hardy Dancer

would have a great chance on early season form but has been out of sorts recently. No Cliches has been in fine form of late, but has been unable to get his head in front when it matters. Perhaps the value lies with SEKENDIPITY, who has performed respectably in a couple of handicaps more competitive than this one.

2.55: Heavy backing can be anticipated for MUCH COMMENDED.
This lightly weighted filly won nicely at Nottingham last time, but it

would be unwise to take too short a price in such a big field. More at-tractive odds should be available on BLANE WATER, a close-up sixth in a classier race than this two weeks ago. James Faoshawe's filly may also be better drawn. Among those drawn on the far side, Tomba seems certain to be in the shake-up.

3.25: The Fanshawe stable runs Di-lazar, who faded in the closing stages in a 10-furlong race at stages in a 10-furlong race at the best option against the John Gos Yarmouth last time and could be ide-den-trained new comer Amaryllis.

ally suited by this distance. Preference, though, is for QUILLING, a course winner on this track. He failed to get into the hunt in a seven-furlong contest at York on Saturday, but this genuine four-year-old should be a tougher proposition over this mile. 3.55: MESHHED, the filly who in-

ored Willie Carson when kicking out on her intended debut at Newbury. is clearly temperamental but may be

provement to fmish second at Ascot last week. Revenge is on the cards. progressive juvenile from his yard, can continue the good work. A 7ib 3.10: Barry Hills has succeeded in

NEVERSE STATE 3.40 Charnwood Forest 2.00 Aficionado 4.15 Serendipity 4.50 Catchable 2.35 Polydamas 3.10 AMYAS (nap)

GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: Far side. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Elght-hand course with 1 in 2f straight (Rowley Mile course).

Rececourse is south-west of town on A1304. But ink from Newmocket pathway station (served by London, King's Cross). ADMISSION: Club 114 (16 to 25-year-olds 15); Grandstand & Paddock 10 (16 to 25-year-olds 15); Silver Ring SS. CAR PARE: Members 11; resminder free.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Cecil — 68 winners from 289 runners gives a success ratio of 23.5% and a loss to a \$1 livel stake of £12.06; E Hammon — 51 winners, 304 runners, 12.2%, — 5.124.23; B Hills — 37 winners, 304 runners, 12.2%, — 5.124.23; L Camsani — 35 winners, 295 runners, 11.9%, —518.01.4.

32 LRADING JOCKETS: Pat Eddery — 121 winners, 546 tides, 22.3%, —518.05; L Detwing — 73 winners, 545 rides, 14.3%, —5145.18; W Carson — 56 winners, 495 rides, 1 L.1%, —577.97; W R Swinhurn — 54 winners, 578 rides, 14.2%, —523.57.

BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Hilly Woo & Princess Of Hearts (2.00); Sheffield Shark (visored, 2.00); Pelydamas (visored, 2.35). Winners In LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE ROINNERS: Return Of Auda (3.10) sent 200 miles by J Bethell from Middleham, N Yorks; Estabow Rain (3.10) sent 200 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, N Yorks; Estabow Rain (3.10) sent 200 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, N Yorks; Estabow Rain (3.10) sent 200 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, N Yorks; Castroon (4.50) sent 200 miles by P Essism from Middleham, N Yorks.

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS B) £12,500 addied 1m 2f 2.5042. OVERBURY (22) (Cockpinin) Saeed bin Succes 5 9 12:
02-5042. OVERBURY (22) (Cockpinin) Saeed bin Succes 5 9 12:
02-44133 FLORED (1884) (224) (CD) (Lotal Howard do Malderly H Cock 5 9 5...
103342. DESERT (1897) (28) (C) (D) (Indianand (Tookin) C Shitan 5 9 0...
123223. INMORELIAN (1894) (23) (D) (Indianand (Tookin) C Shitan 5 9 0...
123230. INVESTIGATION (1894) (E) (E) Held 9 Held 3 9 0...
14. Bright (1894) (E) (1896) (E) (A Robaline) H Cockpin-Hymn 3 8 12...
14. Bright (1894) (E) (1996) (H) (Hobits) P Hodger 3 8 9...
15. WARRIEN SHIVES (249) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
16. WARRIEN SHIVES (249) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
17. P. Section 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9...
18. Bright (1894) (I L Duning J Duning 3 8 9... ol 598 _____ld Roberts 1 ate 690 ____R Cocksans 4 Y B Dayle 3

BETTING: 5-2 Florid, 3-1 Overbury, 7-2 Decent Shot, 8-1 Maghileo, Skight Webst, 10-1 Webble Sands 1995: Bal Harbour 4 9 0 Part Eddery 5-2 (H Cacil) 9 min

THE POLITY ENABOLATION I STRONG CELLING STAYES ICI ACC

H	2.00	E) £6,000 added 2YO 7f	IANES (CLASS
1 1	153030	STREETHALLE WOOD (B) (Likely Lack Pertnership) P Mooney 9 2	_P McCabe (3) 16 B
1 :	200206	ADDISONANO (13) Gerhany Pas, kaonè R Johnson Houstian 8 11	S Saudan 27
13		BATTE F COM IND (29) & A Calestron N Calestron 8 11	L960of 12
1 4	1 0030	CHAMPACHE TOAST (35) (The Boardsonn Syndicate) R Hannon 8 11.	
	. 00	COURT E-E-1-B-A (166) (Carrielos Recing) C Allen 8 11	Mertin Dwyer (5) 14
ŀē	244680	ADERATOR (21) & R Kentennedard C Dunks 8 11	18 (7) سنعمبار ملي
1 7	- 00	HEI AND DEMONS (S.C. (I R.R.) ANDER (125 N. Callaction B.11	S Whitearth 8
Ιġ	********	NAMES AND PARTY OF PARTY AND PARTY A	D Sweepey (7) 15
Ī	0004	PARTY HEIGHT (RS) (Culturing Materials Ltd) N Culturing \$ 11	R ÇOÇEMA 2
		monarce instruction of the Control Country of R 12	6 HEESTE (5) 1
	4 444300	DEBANCES OF HEARTS AN ATO A S Reid B Medica 8 11	B Doyle 10 B
'n	9 · 6	CAMPE VERN MAIN (200 About 1 Word S Williams 8 11 .:	irea williams (7) 本
		concrete MENURY MS // Wilmum S Williams R 11	
	Ā 00	europe o CARRE (19) (Chestecher Width) D Affaithat 8 11	VERN 0 Y
	rit	CHARLES CHARLES Proping Holding Limited J Scientific 8 11.	24 1989 لـــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ
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	7 000	uncome MS Ris C Project Carit M Chappen 8 11	R YET &/
		- Communication of Particular (See Comment D Lighten & 11	
	9 0	WITHER J. A. ROCKE (120 (Emb Houston) J Moore 8 11	
	- 040	permission with Alberton Thom whited Record 1995 S Jacob S R.	
	_ ^	MANAGEMENT ARE PLOT ALSO I A DIRECT DI INDIA N' D	
	3 35500	MLY WOO (23) (Ms / Wolfrespoor) D (Seworth 8 8	HOSER'13. 123 B

23 35500 ILLY 1900 (23) Intel J Workscore (25) 1 Nought 6 to 8 1 Intel 6 1 1 Nought 6 1 Intel 7 1 1 Nought 6 1 Intel 7 1 1 Nought 6 1 Intel 7 1 1 1 Intel 7 Inte RETTRUC: 15-2 Marris Marigold, 3-1 River Of Fortune, 19-1 Chempagna On Teast, 11-1 Afficients. 13-1 Victoria's Deputs, Materielle Roy, 14-1 Greente, Princess of Hamto, Rom For Us, 15-1 others. 12-1 Victoria's Dream, Waterville Boy, 14-1 Greente, Princ 1995: Dumentes 2 8 6 Dené O'Neil 16-1 (R Harmon) 27 san

2.35 HUNTER PRICE PARTNERSHIP RATED STAKES (CLASS B HANDICAP) £12,500 added 4f - 11 declared - Minimum weight: Set 7th (3yo Set Olin). Ture handloop weight: Willie Conquer, Rumins & Polyclanes Set Sib, Shaft Of Light & et Liberty Set Sib, Davie Hills 7st 10th.

BETTIME: 4-1 Polydranes, 9-2 Arabins Story, Deer Life, 5-1 Willie Conquer, 11-2 Zwalestia, 8-1 Son Of Sharp Shot, 11-1 Romios, 14-1 Myetic Hill, 16-1 Shaft of Light, 20-1 others.

1995: Naked Websone 3 8 9 J Reid 10-1 (M Fetherston-Sodies) 10 ran

FORM GHIDE

Some of these are November Handicap possibles, but the vote goes to ZARALASKA, progressive as a four-year-old and weighted with every chance of reversing lest year's Royal Ascot form (Bessborough Handicap) with See of Sharp Shot, being 3th behinr for a neck, Pet Eddery often gives the telented but tricly Son Of Sharp Shot, being 3th behinr for a neck, Pet Eddery often gives the telented but tricly Son Of Sharp Shot is great ride, but Zarakasta shaped just well enough in an Ascot handicap last morth (Bading after being handly placed on the home turn) to suggest he could be a different proposition with that needed see behind him. He has shown he stays 12 through well and he can probably shire over farther. There are dangest light down the column and Willie Congiser, lifth of 20 in that Ascot handicap lest month, came out beiter than Romaios (8th), At Liberty (8th), Arabian Story (14th), Son Of Sharp Shot (15th) and Polydannas (16th), as well as 17th-placed Zarakasia. But it was such a competitive hendicap that a joickey only had to take things easy, or run into bed luck, for a relatively short discence to gain a misleading placing and the possibility of Arabian Storyalasia (15th), as the second proposition of the place of the second pla FORM GUIDE Selection: ZARALASKA

3.10 BRIDCAGE NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2YO 6f 1 0421 CRIMANOC (26) (b) (A H Robinson) J Anold 9 7. 2 155143 BLELINGTON HOUSE (12)(b) Futerd Gasen Fine Parangily P Cole 9 5.45 Revisions (5) 3. 8 1850 STORE FLOWER (15%) (b) (C England P Chapple-Ham 9 6	
2. 155143 BURLINGTON HOUSE (12)(D) (Rutterd Green Fine Parrongs) P Cole 9 66 Familiner (5) 12	
3 81350 STOKE PLOKER (DSA) (DS) (R E Sanguer) P Chapple Hyern 9 6 W R Sainbarn 9	
	1
4 5611 AMONS (at 6th 64s) M Codest) B (2s. 9 6 (7ed)	
5 020112 SHARP HAT (12) (0) (01) U C Smilly R Harmon 9.5Pat Bibliony 6	í
6 440 DARRIG FLIGHT (USA) (17) Chernik De Havinkowski Lord Huntinston 9 4	
7 21. REART (HEART (CD) (B Husters) W Harters 92 R Husters 10	
8 501530 LAMORNA (12) 50 (W.H. Porgorby) M. Charmon 9 1	
9 06203 FEELA LINE (46) U.S. Guziani, B. Mayanan S. 13 2 Doyla 6	
10 4305 Remercher RASH (USA) (26) Galakteren Al Maldourel M. Johnston S. 13	
11 803 SALTMENANCO (13) U C Smith Baider 8 11 R Cochenne 14	
12 033232 PEDSE DANSEUSE (13) (BF) (Bridge Matters Lat) C Dayer 8 11 to Homers (7) 4	
13 5040 BROUGHTON'S EIROR 540 Broughen Thermal Insulation W Marson 85 M Balmi (5) 2	
14 DODGSZ STYLE DANCER SR DAS CA Hodgers R Whiteler 8 5 A Chart 17	
15 410624 ATREPORE (22) Stephen R Hobsoni Mrs J Carol 8 2	
16 608 RETURN OF AMEN (Site Shelf) Aran Dalahol J Battel 81 S Drowne 10	
17 65005 POZZEMENT (26) 84s CE British C Battain 8 1 Deciso 0'Short 18	
18 : 000 PKNRF1A P13) (Deletin Franci Wilet 7 13 Pion (0.13	

- 15 deciand -BETTING: 3-1 Amyan, 6-1 Sharp Hat, 8-1 Burlington House, Style Dancer, 12-1 Crybmec, Feel A Line, 14-1 others. 1995: Lunar Mist 2 8 7 R Hasilo 4-1 (Martyn Meede) 15 san

AMYAS won so easily when he took a York nursery last time. Michael Hills brought him from

3.40 CHALLENGE STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 2) £50,000 added 7f

4-02214 SISHOP OF CASHEL (11)(D) (Creedy Park Study) Fareframe 4.9 (L. - 8 doclared -

— a cogarea —

PETTING: 7-4 Lucayee Prince, 2-1 Charmeoof Forest, 3-1 Richop Of Cashel, 20-1 Terifling Day, 12-1 My Branch, 20-1 Daving Destiny, 22-1 Polar Prince, 150-1 Treen.

1995: Haspyr (USA) 3 8 12 W Carson 13-8 (W R Harn) 8 ran FORM GUIDE

The hendsome Charmanood Forest has run only the times this year, but has been mong it with the best. He will tow the ground if it retains some bounce and is hard to ignore, but stistion OF CASHEL has had a sightly easier time in compection and that may count for something at this subanced stage of the year, liceally, an easier surface would help, but the straight here should be in glood shape and his winning record suggests he is more of an autumn type than Charmanood Forest. The 4th he receives is barely enough but two furions out, he cruised up to threaten Mark Of Esteem in Goodwood's Celebration Mille in August. Lucayan Prince has been nurning over six furiongs of late but his Jersey Stakes win was over seven and his turn of foot, makes him is big danger. My Brassch in the frame in both her Guineas stiempts and can leave behind a sub-standard effort at Goodwood last time when admit of third-placed Timilling Day in the Supreme Stakes.

4	15	MILCARS LEASING HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 C4					
1	600000	HARDY DANCER (26) (D) (Peter 1 Hazon) G L Moore 4 10 0					
2	003050	SERRENDERTY (FR) (10) (John Desbyl J Dunlop 3 9 8					
3	040000	ERREDAL (18) (D) (C E Britain) C Britain 6 9 2					
4		TOLLIOURS RIVERA (5) (CD) (James Furlang) J Pearce 6 9 1					
5 -	422604	TRATINET OUTSWEST (15) (G C Bayery) & Bravery 6 9 1					
6	006222	NO CLICHES (LIO) (D) (RF) (Michael H Ward) G Lows 3 B 13					
7	506264	CHARLE CHANG (69) (D) (Im Hogan) R Harron 3 8 12R Hoghes 1					
8	550580	GOLDEN TOUCH (USA) (28) (C) (D) (Us Riza Godfrey) D Cospose 4 8 4					
		S Senders 9					
9		DEEMEE (15) (CD) (D Turner) C Berestead 7 7 10 Lowe 4					
10	600000	SALUNADO (5) (6) (As Sandy Hendige) Par Machell 5 7 10					
	-	– 10 declared –					
Mod	Minimum weight: 7st 10th, Tran handicap weight: Salamon Gst 11th.						

SETTING: 11-4 No Cliches, 5-1 Serustiphy, 11-2 Statest Outburst, 13-2 Herely Demost, 7-1 Chartel Chang, 15-2 Ettion, 8-1 Tenjours Widers, 14-1 Golden Touch, 20-1 Decrees, 33-1 Saltando.

BLATANT OUTBURST finds this trip the absolute minimum but was unlucky not to be nearer than fourth in a Brighton maiden over the trip last time and and was far from disgraced
in Chester handlesp (extended seven furlongs) the time before. He is a little less exposed
than most of these, could be on a fair made and his Francise Detton to give him a new outlook on Ris. Toujouris Rhivera has been a little less consistent of late but, was several
24 in a decent event at Ascot lest time, while Handy Dancer has every chance on his form
in the first half of the season. No Cliches is in good heart, but has finished accord in the
last thine custors. Selection: BLATANT OUTBURST TALES ERF CHESTERTON MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 59000 added

4.	5 0	270 1m	SHOU GUIGE
1	6	CKTCHABLE (149) (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 9 ()	Pat Eldery 11
2		CITY HALL (Lord Withrestock) P Chapple-Hyem 9 ()	_W R Swiebern 17
3	3	DAVOGRI (62) (Robert Ogsen) B Hills 9 0	H HHs 2
4	0	FANTALL (14) (Particle, Lady Nelson of Station) M Tomplets 9 0	R Males (7) 15
5		GADROON Flord Scarsdaled P Hastern 9 0	
6		GALLESS (FR) (International Racing Services Ltd) P Kelleney 9 0	T Outen &
7		HIGHEY PRIZED (J C Smith) Balding 9 0	L Detice 1
ġ	a	JOLI'S PRINCE (26) Four Score Record C Murray 9 0	P Boomfield 7
9	•	NATURAL SIGHT ONEs Melody Stul B Hills 9 0	A (2ack 16
10	0	QANGEN WOOD (25) (Gallagter Manuscus Ltd) N Callagtern 9 D	
ī		REAL ESTATE (111) ON Assembly C Wall 8 O.	
12	-	RESALT (Sheith Atomed Al Makesum) M Janus 9 0	
<u> </u>		ROYAL CRUSADE (USA) (Highday Thomashired Record Ltd) W Hooses	
14		THEORY GEORGE (Theo Wandington) G Balance 9 0	
24 15		AUFRIDANCO (A J Rees) A Statest 8 9	
16 17		RINCA (P Consingition) J Peace 8 9	2 Parent 10
ш			
		= 17 declared -	
DE LA	0-2-1	Company 7.7 Catalogica S.1 City Stati 16.4 National Field Mathia Dri	nort 19.1 Callble

TAUNTON W HYPERION

1.50 Cointosser 2.25 Almapa 3.00 Drumcullen 3.35 Southern Ridge 4.05 Mutazz 4.35. Tenayestelign 5.10 Red Tel

GOING: Farm.
GOING: Farm.
Bight-hand course. Run-in of 150yds.
Bight-hand course. Run-in of 150yds.
Course is 3 of town on B8170. Taunton station 2m. ADMISCourse is 3 of town on B8170. Taunton station 2m. ADMISCourse is 3 of town on B8170. Taunton station 2m. ADMISCOURSE IN COURSE IN COURS rse £3; remainder free. PARK: Centre of cou

SLINKEERD FIRST TIME: Peytes Jones (1.50); Gelin's Pride (2.25); Merikas Wish (2.25); Mylordamayor (2.25).

[2.25); Merikas Wish (2.25); Mylordamayor (1.25).

[2.25); Merikas Wish (2.25); Mylordamayor (1.50) won at Wincanton on Thurse-causon on Thursday; DrussenDen (3.00) won at Lindow on Thursday; day: Erorer Gelf Diamond (1.50) won at Ladlow on Thursday. Tensayestellap (4.35) won at Ladlow on Thursday. Tensayestellap (4.35) won at Ladlow on Thursday. IONG-DESTANCE EUNNEES: Tensat (3.25) has been sent 148 miles by Thursday. There Gelf Diamond (1.50) sent 148 miles by Thursday.

1.50 WATCHET RIVENILE NOVICES' CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS 6) £2,450 added 340 2m

1 NEMER GOLF DIAMOND (7) T Naughton 11.9 N William
11 CONTROSSER (7) (CD) R Frost 11.4 S. V.
31242 BEH BOWENN (7) (2) M Bismand 11.9 John
NED TIME M Samples 11.3 P.
20

PO PETTON JONES (15) A Smith 10 5...... S40 KINGS MEMOCIJJE (31) J Winte 10 3..... SERN-LODGE K Bridgester 10 0..... 23 MONRA (7) P Murphy 100... no Boy, 10-1 Red Time, 14-1 other

2.25 DONYALT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS @) £2,450 added 2m 1f 0.00500 AFFERDAS WASH (35) (3) M Pipe 7 11 10 A P NoCoy B

2517802: 7-2 Almago, 4-1 Minamet, 9-2 First Cadet, 5-1 Naturelli, 8-1 Mindles Web, 19-1 Scalp 'em, 12-1 others

3.00 LANSDOWNE CHEMICAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m

_B local 約 R Baher 4 10 11 外表 (716 (11) J Needle 4 10 11_D Bridgember D Marcis MR JRSPER N Tho MYSTIC LEGEND J P-2 TOWN, (8) R Ingary 4 10 11...... 06- LONGERA (192) R Alter 6 10 7....

4.05 CAVENDISH TECHNOLOGY HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 3f

4.35 ISEFLO IODINE CHALLENGE CUP NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 110yds GLOPP.1 ENVIESTELLEN (7) (D) D Maris 8 11 0...
G COOLUTEN HERO (15) R Aber 6 10 12
POSO-IF ROYAL MARIS (B) M Medipuck 6 10 12
GPOOD-3 LARKS TAIL, (B) P Webber 8 10 7
— A declared – 5.10 OCTOBER STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 1f 5 MOONLIGHT ESCHPADE (SAS) R Hodges 5 11, 11...T Descombe 21 RED TEL (57) M Pipe 4 11 10.

-5 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Makez, 5-2 Peter Momeny, 5-1 Take A Flyer, 6-1 Superc Charg, 8-1 Zingfor

NY 15950 (81) D Admirror 4 10 12 8 8m - 14 declared -

MRS Bid P Nicholls 4 10 12.

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + NEWMARKET 971 981 983 TAUNTON

HAYDOCK . 1.30: 1. CATIENUS (K Darley) 2-1 fac 1.30: 1. CATIENUS (K Darley) 2-1 fac.
2. Outflanter 5-1; 3. Right Wing 6-1. 10
ren. 8, 37/s. (M Stoute, Meternaries). Rete.
E2.70: £1.20. £1.90, £2.60. Dual Forecast: £4.90. CSF: £13.15. This: £11.90.
Non Runners Fryik & Top Of the Green.
Jackpot: £4.40. Pincapot: £1.10.
Rene & £7.40.

2.10: 1. CASHF OW CRESS (S. Ref.) 11-4 for, 2. Family Flyer 10-1; 2. Catwell-or 9-1 10 ran, 4, 16. (J. Mudha). Total 52.00; £1.40, £3.70, £2.70, DF: £17.00, CSF £26.62. Ticast: £194.55. The

2.40: 1. COURRARE (G Supple) 5-4 flav; Rem Castomer 12-1; 3. Grown hery 3-1. 13 mm. 10, 8. (M Pige). Tota: £2.00: 2. Rem Customer 12-1; 3. Grown Hery 38-1 13 rm. 10. 8. OF Piok. 1046: £2.00: £1.20, £4.30, £7.70. Dr. £20.30. CSP. £19.03. Hitr. £38.20. 2.10: 1. POMBO WARSHG (i F Toto): 13-8 fm; 2. Presser Intenti 7-1; 3. Dubelle 15-2. 7 rps. 8, 13. (Auss H Kright). Tota: £2.10: £2.10, £3.40. Dr. £21.20. CSP. £12.65. £12.65, 1.40: 1. SHAHRANI P Scutemon) 2-7 tor; 2. Bright Sauphire 14-1; 3. Sans 25-1. 9 rm. 11, 9. (M Pigo), Note: £1.40; £1.10, £1.70, £4.80, DP. £7.0. CSF: £7.32. Wit: £34.50.

RACING RESULTS A.AD: 1. CRACK ON (A P McCoy) 7-4 it far; 2. Out Ranking 7-4 jt far; 3. Little Hooligan 9-4. 4 ran. 9, 20. (P Hobbs), Take: £2.50. DF: £2.70. CSP: £5.05. RICHARD EDMONDSON

NAP: Lucayan Prince (Newmarket 3:40) NB: Davoski (Newmarket 4.50)

17.32. Tric: £34.50.
4.10: 1. 185HOPS CASTLE (I Front) 11.
4: 2. Chichathich 5-2 fev. 3. I Remember Wor 7-1. 7 mm. 1%, 13. Toles: £2.80, £2.30, £2.00. DP: £2.30. CSP: £8.62.

2.20: 1. LASAN (A.S. Smith) 20-1; 2. Falcon's Flame 8-1; 3. Physitism Haze 9-2, 19 ran. 4-1 fay Globe Runner (4th), 5, 6, (K Mongan), Baier 299, 40; 27.20, 23.30, 21.60, Dr. £148.40, CSF. £173.33, Tice 2133.00

WETHERBY

250; 1. MONYSKIP (Paried Greet) 5-2; 2. Commendeer 10-1; 3. Deise Marstud 11-9 fix, 6 ran. 11, 7, May 5 Smith). Teta: 13.00; £1.70, £3.30. DP. £17.10. CSP: £21.42. 2. Commendeer 10-1; 3. Delize Hershell
11-8 far. 6 ran. 11, 7, [Alss S Smith). Inter
23.00; £1.70, £3.30. DP; £17.10. CSP.
23.01; £1.70, £3.30. DP; £17.10. CSP.
24.01; £1.70, £3.30. DP; £17.10. CSP.
25.01; £1.70, P\$ £2.20. CSP. £10.50. From 74, 6. (Miss M Revelley). Note: £5.20; Place 6: £43.91. Place 8: £8.51.

DR: £5.30. CSR: £19.70. Treast: £74.65. Placepot: £18.70. Quadpot: £11.00. Place 6: £19.75. Place 3: £9.74. £1.60, £1.90, £1.50, DF, £18.10, CSF, £23.50, Tricest: £39.26, 3.50; 1 GENERAL COMMAND (R Outwoody) 10-11 tar; 2. Glemot 5-2; 3. De Jordson 20-1. 6 ran. 3, 18. (G Richards). Totae £1.80; £1.30, £1.50. DF: £2.40. CSF: £3.58. NR: Masser Boston. 23.56. Not master described.

4.20: 1. SHARE OPTIONS (1. W)ert 8-1:
2. Antarctic Wind 9-2; 3. Highbeath 3-1 fax 18 ran. ½, 7, (7 Easterly). Rate: 15-40; 25.50, E.1.60, E.2.10. DP. £16.90. CSP. £47.08. Trics £21.20. NR: Charley Lambert.

HEDCAR 3.55 Meshhed (nb) 4.25 Evidence in Chief 2.10 Totam Dancer 2.55 Blane Water COENC: Good to Form Firm in physics | STALLS: Indf., Indf - touck for config - config DRAW ADVANTAGE: light for M to Im. E. Left-band, tight course with a one mile straight.

Course is off A105% engagement from A or, lindear stanen (Barlegeon - Saltharn has)
more, ADACSSHOS: Cale 21:2, Particle 28, (PUS-23, 201) Pages 22 (a) (PMS-21, 20)
TABLE Band. ELEADOR TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley - Informative from JUST more given a success manual 12 Per and a late to a 21 fact state of \$10.71, \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Berry - \$10 states and 15 fact state of \$10.71, \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Berry - \$10 states and \$10.00 states of \$10.01, \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Berry - \$10 states and \$10.00 states of \$10.00 1.40 CUB HUNTERS RATING RELATED MADEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £3,196 - 9 decimed -HG: 9-4 Epomine, 5-1 Horgil Times, 5-1 Scient Star, Sena, 8-1 Pietro Baroko, Shekan Un 1951 ethem. 1955: Quarty (net 2 9 0) Comp. 11 2 NY A C Somers 12 net 2.10 LESLIE PETCH MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,500 added 1m 6f Penaity Value £4,133 **1196: Top Lan,** არც **39**5 L შლილ 94 . 9 მელი, არდი 2.55 REDCAR TWO-YEAR-OLD TROPHY (CLASS B) £100,000 added 210 6f Penalty Value £57,418 D R McCabe 22

3 Duffield 20 . K Fallon 13 Dean McKeeum 12 _ - Dene O'Mail 3 .JFEes FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

MUCH COMMENDED is one of the the least experienced numers in this higheld but she is well worth considering bearing in mind the last three winners of this race – Blue his, Maid For Walliang and Cape Menno – were all filters who camed a low weight. Much Commended's with in a Nothingtain motion has worked out notify, with numer-up Discondant rotating up at Wanack on the same day that the Nothingtain fifth, Tycon Guil, won in pleasing style on this course. From a family full of winners that Geoff Wragg knows inside out, Much Commended could and up needing notic than six furforing, but she cam sure-like months for the first rain. Blane Menter is mother fifty with strong claims in that for market (77). David Loder relies on Mazzi, easy senter at Beveriey and a colt with potential, although last year the Loder trained Medicin, who had won just a Newbostle mostlor finished in mod-dission after starting favourite. Magical Times bout Toolshe, Nigrashin who has a useful pull in the weights todays and Osomental at Doncoster's St Leger most ital at Doncaster's St Leger meetproved far too strong for Magical Times (Sto better off for five lengths) and, at he has had the lighter season, looks more likely to improve. Speedball was two and a half lengths behind Tomba at Saksbury and has no weight pull, but he might not have been as office two on the soft ground that day.

Selection: MUCH COMMERNDED

	[3.25	STANLEY RACING HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 1m Penalty Value £4,796	C4
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1	2	20320	DEAZAR (USA) (29) (Nano Al Nakatum) J Fanshowe 3 9 7	D Harrison 6
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-1			- 13 declared -	
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SETTING: 9-2 Royal Result, 6-1 Quilling, 7-1 Asherctic Storm, 8-1 Dilexar, Read, 10-1 Mr Teigh. Spanish Verdict, 10-1 others 1995: Mhuha 9 7 8 L Cramodi 11-1 (R A Fahe) 12 can

1999: Making 9 7 8 L Cramock 11.1 of A Fabry 12 can
FORM GUIDE

Master Beveled and Displomed, first and third in a mile conditions race at Warwick List week, were found wanting in handicaps next time, so it is difficult to be confident about the Warwick second, RAED. Aport from the Warwick race, though, Raud has had just one attempt of a mile, finishing fourth of 23 when Sovetheens Lucky aon of York. On that occasion, Raed was only inches behind third placod Quilling should be the origin to the might be the answer to this finish, handicap, although Quilling should be thereabouts again or a track that burgs got the best in him. Royal Result and Dillazar look as though hey can make their presence tell, and Falled to Hit is surely capable of botter than he showed at Haydock, where the soft ground may have been argainst him. Denishen with all Haydock List October, then followed up there and could go well again aller whitning at Haydock lists October, then followed up there and could go well again aller whitning at Haydock.

3.55 EBF MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 C4

1995: Green Charter 2.5.1.1 (Fig. 1 = 1.2 In this Learn Lear

47.1

4.25 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS F) £4,200 added 1m 5f 135yds Penalty Value £3,605 1 3020-50 DON'T PORSET CORTES (RE) (188) (The Legrand Curia Partnershay G Moore 4.9.12). 25-232 ARC OF THE DINCER (IRE) (10) The R E M Pagnershot J Borny 3 S T G Contar 10 B

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5.00 ESTON LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 57 Penal-ty Value £3,173 ODSIG21, MARKALO PRIN (28) (D) FLUCKYEN SOLET J Bern, 3 9 1 _______ & Conner 12 B 214132* MEDINISHT SPELL (36) (D) (Mych Helf Solet) J Hüs 4 9 1 _______ All Hamey (3) 221305 SOLEHERT (B) (D) (Medic H Sone) B Leakagen 4 9 1 ______ 6 Deatheid & 221230 SHOWN AT WHEALLEY (B) (D) (Capt H H Badder Morryn Klaro 4 9 1 _____ P Roberts (5) 3 203021 ANOTHER BASCHWORTH (B) (D) (D) Pice, C Walesbell, C O'Toole) E Wheeler 3 8 12 ____ Societa 1 H 004300 NEEDE COMES A STAR (FD) (Mrs June Geograph) I Carr 8 8 12 = 12 declared = BETING: 7-2 Here Comes A Stor, 9-2 Steg With The Eard, 9-1 Midsight Spell, 6-1 Austhor Raich world, Man Migsig, 7-1 Mesolo, 8-1 Steen At Whalley, 10-1 others

sport

In any case, the romantic perception of the Charltons as footballing brothers in arms has gone for ever

Going back further in time than it is comfortable to remember I used to find it strange that Jack and Bobby Charlton were not drawn to each other in the way you expect brothers to be. They are different, that's for sure, but variance in per-

sonality did not fully explain why they spent very little time together. After all, they were from a closeknit working class family, and added to its remarkable prowess at football by sharing in England's 1966 World Cup victory, falling into a tearful embrace at the final whistle. "We don't live in each other's pockets." Jack would grunt when questions about their relationship were

Later on it became clear that there was something deeper, some-

thing troublesome that both were determined to avoid in conversation. This can happen in families and the discreet thing was to let them get on with it. From time to time people in this trade asked if there was any substance to rumours that the Charltons had grown apart. "Not to my knowledge," I would reply as a small

means of protecting their privacy. It all came into the open last week when the Daily Mail began serialis-ing Jack Charlton's forthcoming autobiography; disaffection, Jack's complaint that Bobby, his late mother's favourite, seldom bothered to visit her or show concern about her failing health. "I'll run my life the way I want to," Bobby is quoted as

saying.

A baffling thing is why Jack chose

to go public. Was the decision in fluenced by his publishers or did he simply want to put the record straight? In any case, the romantic perception of the Charitons as foot-balling brothers in arms has gone for

I know Bobby fairly well but I know Jack better. Over the years we have formed what I like to think of as a friendship which makes the writing of this piece extremely difficult.

Companions one year, long ago, on a coaching course at Lilleshall, we wondered what the future held for us. Jack was revealing an excellent mind for the game, but things at Leeds were not to his liking. Constantly at odds with the training staff who considered his natural stubbornness to be disruptive, his play-



ing career was in limbo. "Don't know what it will lead to, where I'll end up," I remember him saying. All nged when Jack became reconciled with Don Revie, and went on to break through as a considerable international defender.

Importantly, fame didn't change home after being released from hospital following the awful Munich sprang quickest to mind in descripion and cussed he remains. Recalling their days together at Leeds, the former Republic of Ireland international John Giles said: "Jack wasn't always right but he was never wrong," which sums him up perfectly.

To suggest that eavy on Jack's part caused the rift with Bobby is absolute nonsense. Even before his own career took off, Jack went around expressing pride in his younger brother's achievements. Later he would say: "When you think about the greatest players in history you have to include 'our kid" among

In a book we did together 12 years ago. Bobby told of his journey

air disaster in 1958. "When I'd recovered sufficiently to travel by train, Jack met me in London and drove me to Ashington where I was to spend a week or two. He didn't say very much and there were long silences. But I felt very close to him

Time did the relationship no favours. "Haven't spoken to him for ages," Jack would say when his brother's name cropped up in passing. "But it's no big deal: Ever since we left home we've gone our separate ways and playing together for England, a terrific thing for our paragraphs our mother, didn't ents, especially our mother, didn't

make any difference." Alf Ramsey was aware of the dis-

tance between them, so was Neil Phillips who served as England's medical officer at the 1970 World Cup in Mexico and brought Jack into football management when vice chairman of Middlesbrough. "I'm very fond of them both, think of them as friends, he said, "but there was always something about their relationship you could never put a finger on.

Merso

That Bobby became an establishment figure, a director of Manchester United, and carned a knighthood, does not enter the equation. Fame furthered by the remarkable feats he performed as the Republic of Ireland's manager, Jack has simply followed the course that most suited him. The sad thing is that they are probably beyond reconciliation.

Back to business for Woosnam

Golf

ANDY FARRELL reports from Wentworth

There are draws, and then there are World Match Play Championship draws. The event, in its 33rd consecutive year and the sixth under the sponsorship of Toyota, did not get where it is today without making some careful arrangements along the

By this evening, the British representation at Wentworth will be down by 50 per cent. Scotland's Colin Montgomerie, the European No 1, plays Ian Woosnam - the man he beat to take the crown this season - in the feature match of the first

"The initial reaction was one of surprise," Montgomerie said. He knows better than that. "It's a shame, but it will be good for TV and the crowd."

"Honestly, both of us think it is a bit silly doing it," Woos-nam added. "It would have been nice to have a chance to play each other in the final. They say it guarantees a home player playing on Friday, but I don't agree."
While Montgomerie was

beaten three times out of three at the Alfred Dunhill Cup last week in St Andrews, Woosnam had the week off to rest his ailback. Those problems helped hand the Order of Merit title to Montgomerie.

"I feel better after the rest," Woosnam said. "It's my legs that are aching now because of the back. They feel tired and I am getting cramp. It is like I'm walking uphill all the time."

As Montgomerie has recog-nised, the Welshman is usually careful to get his excuses in first. but the physic van has been rimed for a possible visit after he has hit a few balls in the morning and he has already booked a table for lunch. Surgery, something Woosnam who suffers from the deterioration of vertebrae in his back

WORLD MATCHPLAY

0815 and 1230: *S Eldington (Aus) v S Stricker (US). Winner to play *E O830 and 1245; I Woosnam (GB) v
*C Montgomerie (GB). Winner to
play *M Brooks (US).

O845 and 1300: *P Mickelson (US)
v V Singt (Fiji). Winner to play *S Jones

9900 and 1215: N Serizawa (Japan)

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"The surgeon wants to see me again," he said. "He assured me it is fixable and it won't stop me playing, but I don't know exactly what sort of operation I'll need. It is a question of when. It will take at least three months to recover." With the US Masters in April next year in mind, it may

later. "I feel like I am suffering all the time and, long term, want to keep on playing."
Big Monty and wee Woosi

have not met before in straight er's games well and how we react under pressure," Mont-gomerie said. "I am looking forward to the challenge of play-ing him. I hit the ball straight and that is a key around here."

The Scot's record is good around the West Course, but he has yet to win either the Volvo PGA Championship or the World Match Play, although he lost in the final to Ernie Els in

Even if he should head for home defeated tomorrow - and he is the only one of the 12 players able to stay at home this week - his £30,000 prize-money will take him past £5m career earnings in Europe.

Woosnam, twice a winner here, became the first home champion in 1987, when he came through from the opening day. Only Corey Pavin in 1993 has achieved that feat since. "I don't agree that four of the 12 players get a day off," Montgomerie said. "But then I've never been seeded here.

His fitness training and diet-

ing from earlier in the year may help if he is to play all eight rounds needed to win the event. "I don't feel my fitness let me and playing as long as ever, but as the Spaniard, the Masters down against Ernie in '94, but it suits the South African's ag-champion, Nick Faldo—who has I played my best golf on the third day."

"It is a big advantage not to play until Friday," Els, the top seed and winner here for the seed and winner here for the past two years, said. The West Course is in superb condition though perennial favourities such five on the US money list all against last year's runner-up, with a 27 to a 28. past two years, said. The West



lan Woospam warms up for today's match against Colin Montgomerie at Wentworth yesterday.

gressive nature in this format. a conflicting commitment in No one has won the event three Japan - Greg Norman, Bern-In one has won the event three times in a row, but Els, 27 to-day, should one day challenge Gary Player and Seve Ballesters.

I apan - Greg Norman, Bernhard Langer, et al are not here, the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, the line-up is still strong. Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the strict of the strict of the strict of the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the strict of the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the strict of the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and Steve Strick-teres's recognition for the winning American trio from St. Andrews, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson and St. Andrews and Phil Mickelson and Phil Mickels

here. The Major winners – Tom Lehman, Steve Jones and Mark Brooks - are the other seeds, but

matches at St Andrews but was bump on Tuesday evening. Playing on Wentworth's par-three

Henman to face Rusedski,

Tennis

Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski are poised for their first confrontation this year at the Czech indoor tournament in Ostrava. Britain's top two players will meet each other today in the second round after Rusedski defeated the Swiss qualifier George Bastl 6-4, 7-6,

Henman beat Sweden's Nicklas Kulti on Monday, and will face Britain's No 2 for the first time since he beat Rusedski 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the final of the British National Championships in Telford last November.

At that time Rusedski was the British No 1 and expected to win. Now the tables have turned and Henman, 26th in the world and seeded seventh in the Czech event, musi start as favourite.

But Rusedski, whose world ranking slumped from a high of 33 in January this year to 84 tay
weeks ago, has been in
standing form during the past
fortnight, reaching the semifinal of the Heineken Classic in Singapore, ensuring his world ranking climbed to 75.

Then he won his first ATP

Tour event since changing his alegiance from Canada to Britain when he beat Martin Damm, of the Czech Republic, in the final of the Peking Open. His ranking has now risen to 53.

Pete Sampras breezed past

the Canadian doubles specialist Grant Connell 6-4, 6 ner to play Els, won all his five | terday in his opening Silver Group match of the Hong brought down to earth with a Kong Championships. The second-seeded Austrian Thomas Muster also got off to a winning course, the honours went to his wife and caddie, Nicki Stricker, African Neville Godwin 6-4, 1 3-6, 6-4 in the Gold Group.

PLAYER **TRANSFERS FROM 23 OCTOBER**



Striker injured? Manager moved on? Now's your chance to improve your team for a sporting chance to win tickets to World Cup '98



* THE INDEPENDENT SINDEPENDENT

Offiah ready for Bedford debut

Martin Offiah will make his union debut for Bedford on Satter specialists feared a toe injury could wreck his season.

The 29-year-old former Wigan winger has passed a full fitness test, and specialists are happy to let Offiah play in the Second Division home game against Rotherham, providing he wears some extra padding in his boot. "It's still a bit sore but there has been no adverse reaction," Offiah said yesterday. "I've had my first full training session and I feel sharp and ready. The spe-cialists told me I had aggravat-

ed the joints between my toes, but with padding lining my boot, I should be all right." Offiah arrived at Bedford

similar to that which curtailed Gary Lineker's football career. However, Offiah is now keen

on bolstering Bedford's promotion hopes and his own chances of an England call-up. *Obviously you've got to have high targets and now that I am back I would like to impress the England selectors," he said. Another player who has over-

come injury and returns on Saturday is Michael Lynagh. The world record points-scorer, who was injured playing only his sec-ond match for Saracens, makes his comeback against Cambridge University. Mark Evans, his director of coaching, said: "We are delighted to welcome him back so that he can ease his way into the team before the important forthcoming League matches." Jason Leonard has been

captaining England against Italy at Twickenham next month. The vote of confidence comes from Leonard's England front-Chilcott, just days before Jack Rowell, the national coach, announces his new leader.

"After watching Leonard skipper Harlequins this season, I think he could pip favourite Lawrence Dallaglio for the job," Chilcott said.

"If you are trying to blend a young side together, then you need some experience. Leonard is a world-class player, and he's relishing his role at Harlequins. Captaining Quins must be a Captaining Quins must be a spent last weekend trying to find hard job because of all the class they've got, but he is proving to be an inspirational leader."

Leonard, still only 28, made his England debut against Ar-

Jason Leonard has been geniina six years ago and has tipped to win his 50th cap by since played in two World Cup

campaigns, and the 1993 British Lions tour of New Zealand. Dallaglio, the Wasps flanker,

remains favourite for the position vacated by Will Carling, who stepped down last season after captaining England a world record 59 times.

Rowell has said that he has already made up his mind, but he will not reveal the identity of the captain until English rugby's power struggle is resolved.

Negotiating teams from the Rugby Football Union and English Professional Rugby Union Clubs reconvened yesa peace formula.

If a compromise is reached this week, then Rowell could announce his new captain before England's next scheduled squad

Bristol and Narbonne in fixture chaos players are not professionals. They have to be in work first

The row over the dropping of place for Pienaar in his vision François Pienaar took a new of the game's future in South turn yesterday when a former team-mate of South Africa's

for axed Pienaar

'Punch-drunk' fear

Uli Schmidt, the former Springbok hooker, supported Pienaar's demotion, saying a series of injuries had caused concern about his health and fit-

Schmidt, a doctor, said Pienaar's reaction times had been jeopardised by several concussion injuries and he was in danger of becoming punch drunk. Pienaar was left out of the Test series against the All Blacks in August because of injury. Schmidt said Pienaar needed a long rest to recover from his injuries properly. Pienaar himself expressed bitterness about the

way the coach, Andre Markgraaff, had dropped him from the squad to tour Argentina, Wales and France next month. "I am fed up with all the lies since I was left out of the team," the deposed Springbok captain said in the Afrikaanslanguage Beeld newspaper.

Africa

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"First, the coach said I have World Cup-winning captain no role in the future of South suggested he was in danger of African rugby," Pienaar was African rugby," Pienaar was quoted as saying. "Then it was said this meant only the immediate future. Then this was followed by statements that I had no role in the touring squad, that I was not available for the tour, that I had withdrawn myself.

Where is it all going to end?"
He said Markgraaff, appointed earlier this year to re-place Kitch Christie, had yet to tell him about the decision to drop him. One of Markgraaff's two fellow selectors, Ray Mordt, quit the selection panel on Monday. "I did not support Markgraaff in his decision." Mordt said. decision," Mordt said.

The Springboks play their first Test against Argentina in Buenos Aires on 9 November England, the holders, whi meet Romania in their pool of the 1997 Sevens World Cup in Hong Kong, while one of the qualifiers from next month's tournament in Dubai - from which Wales and Scotland are Markgraaff shocked South
African rugby on Saturday
when he said there was no

First Division club entertain Nar-bonne on Saturday – instead of Sunday as planned – then tourweeks ago after we explained the whole ground-share situation to on Saturday, because Bristol Rovers, who share our ground, are playing a Second Division match against Blackpool," the nament officials will award both But the Narbonne secretary, Rene Bes, countered: "We canclub's general manager. Dave

pean Conference organisers over a French fixture farce. Unless the The news, which arrived in a letter from the Conference's Tyler, said. "Saturday night is

Bristol have fallen foul of Euro-

claim they are now in an impossible position.
"We cannot stage the game

day, has stunned Bristol, who

ground couldn't possibly be pre-pared in time after the football. The Sunday date was arranged

not play on Sunday for two reasons. We have reserved a flight for Sunday morning and our

thing on Monday morning."

Tyler added: "It is ridiculous for the ERC to say we must con-cede the game. We attended a meeting last July, when it was stated that arrangements regarding dates and kick-off times would be determined by the

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Dublin headquarters yester- also a non-starter because the



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McRae wins in San Remo gap behind McRae by 10 sec-

the 1996 champion, crashed out in the opening stage on

Merson is reassured over future

Football

CATHERINE RILEY

Paul Merson that he was very much part of the Arsenal manager's future plans at Highbury. The midfielder has made an

impressive comeback which culminated in an England call-up since he began his battle against drink, drugs and gambling, but his admission that his marriage had broken down brought with it the indication Merson was fretting over his contract.

His current deal with Arsenal ends next year and the 28-yearold admitted that the chib's failure to table a new offer had added to his problems. Howev-Wenger has moved to reassure Merson that he remains part of his long-term plans.

"We have confidence in Paul to solve his personal problems, but if the club can help then we will do it," Wenger said. "Paul is a passionate footballer with great skill, and he has got himself back into the national squad. He is now arriving at the best years of his career and Arsenal can expect to see the best of Paul Merson. I think he is a player the club can count on in the future."

Mark Bosnich, the under-fire Aston Villa goalkeeper, has been given a glowing character reference from the Australian Football Association after be received an FA misconduct charge for his Nazi-style salute to Tottenham fans on Saturday. In a letter faxed to the FA in London, David Hill, the chairman of Soccer Australia, described Bosnich as an outstanding ambassador, "Soccer Australia is proud of Mark's are pledging further demonsachievements and public profile. Ws efforts on and off the field e only brought good upon

his total, unequivocal retion and expect that his acwill not be repeated."

The property of the property o n given a vote of confidence

is sport and he has gone out

the club's vice-chairman, Richard Matthewman. "We felt Ray was the man for the job when we appointed him and he did a great job in the second half of last season.

"As far as we are concerned,

main problems this season stemmed from Alan Shearer's departure which was not of Ray's making. I think Ray has made it Arsène Wenger yesterday told clear that he wants to do the job and feels he can do it providing he has everyone's backing."

Meanwhile, Rovers' leftback, Graeme Le Saux, yesterday took a step nearer to returning to duty for the first time since his ankle injury 10 months ago, playing the full 90 minutes of a closed-doors practice game against Tranmere.

Paul Ince has been given a two-match ban following his controversial sending-off at the weekend in Internazionale's 2-0 victory over Piacenza. Ince was shown the red card after Giampietro Piovani collapsed theatrically in the goalmouth clutching his head. TV replays showed that Ince had merely tweaked the Italian's ear.

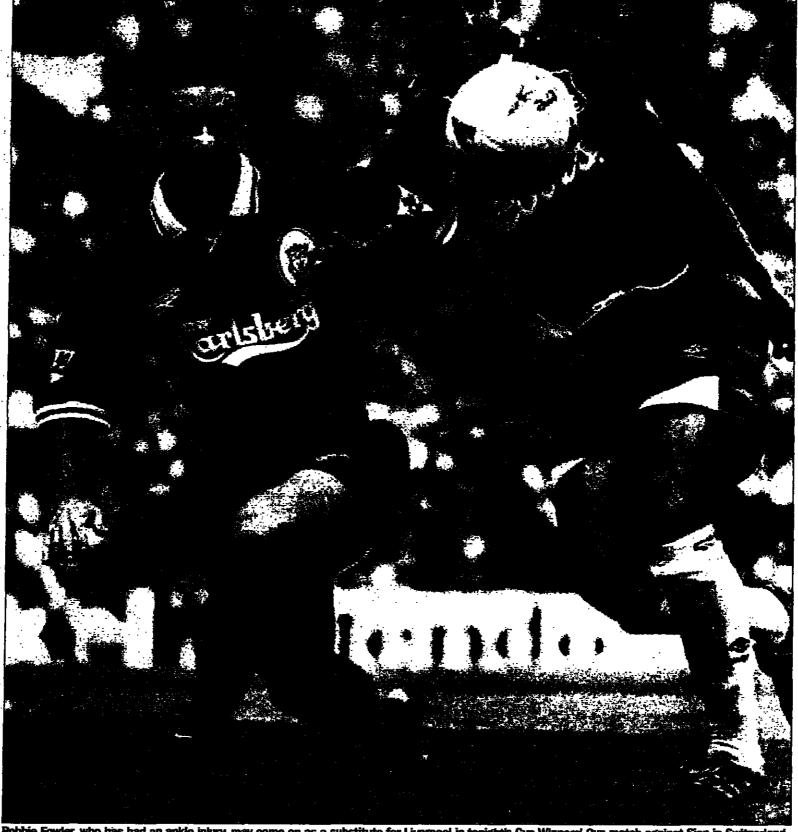
Chris Robinson, the chairman of Hearts, has been ordered to appear in front of the Scottish Football Association's disciplinary committee at their next meeting on 18 November. Robinson, who appeared on the touchline as his club had four men sent off in their game with Rangers at Ibrox last month, has been summoned to explain his actions. The Brighton manager, Jimmy Case, has renewed his plea for the club to resolve their off-thefield problems following further demonstrations during Tuesday night's 1-0 home defeat by

Around 2,000 Seaguils supporters walked out of the Goldstone Ground 15 minutes from the end to protest at Bill Archer's running of the club.

Brighton supporters' groups trations to maintain the pressure on the chairman. Case admitted: "It's getting harder for the players and me to

what's going on and is pursuing his proposals for a new stadium in Hove," Case said.

"I'm concerned about all the delays and confidence is being affected. My players haven't thrown in the towel yet. I'm getting a lot from them - but I need nothing has changed and the a bit more."



يمكذا من الأصل

Robbie Fowler, who has had an ankle injury, may come on as a substitute for Liverpool in tonight's Cup-Winners' Cup match against Sion in Switzerland

"Use of football in Australia. "While Soccer Australia from here. I've got to get the bottom of the bids off the bottom of the bis total, unequivocal rebis total, unequivocal re "I don't know where we go from here. I've got to get the side off the bottom of the bench

tonight on the bench after missing three matches and being pulled out of the England squad because of an ankle injury. Fowler took part in an af-

ternoon training session at Sion Stadium after the Liverpool Party arrived at Geneva Airport yesterday. Fowler and the rest

ing line up. The manager, Roy Evans, said: "We will wait and see if there is a reaction and then see how Robbie is. We won't take a chance with him and I will make a decision on the day." Sion are still pushing for ho-

retain their places in the start- won Serie A in 1990. Bigon took over at Sion two mouths ago and they are unbeaten since

then under his stewardship. He can call on the former golden boot winner Darko Pancey, but the striker has suffered from indifferent form and injury problems since mov-

SPORTING DIGEST

as to be spot on. He added: "I have seen Sion at first hand and this is a dangerous tie. We have got to be looking for that away goal."

John Scales will be aiming to make up for lost time. The 30year-old centre-back endured a frustrating time as the club reached the top of the FA Car-

torm of Mark Wright left him looking on but Scales broke back into the team last month, coming on as substitute when Wright fractured his cheekbone in the first round, second leg victory over My Pa-47. And he showed glimpses of his best form in the defeat by Manchester United on Saturday.

Busst back on road to recovery

The Coventry City defender, David Busst, has taken the first steps on the long road to recovery after suffering a horrific leg injury against Manchester United six months ago.

Busst, whose right leg was shattered 89 seconds into the match at Old Trafford, has started physiotherapy after undergoing 14 operations,

Yet Busst is sanguine about the career-threatening injury. "The specialist told me if it had happened 20 years ago I would ve probably lost my leg. Quite simply, the technology would not have been around in those days to cope with the problem." Busst has had his leg rebuilt

by a plastic surgeon and is confident he will be able to play again, with April pencilled in for a return to training "I knew I'd broken my leg but

didn't know how had it was. Even now I can't bring myself to look at the incident on video or photographs.

The plastic surgeon had to

rebuild my leg to cover the hole where the bone had come out. They had to cut away a lot of skin which had been embedded with all the artificial stuff used on a football pitch, to avoid infection."

Busst says he has never lost the belief he will eventually play again. "I am an optimisi." he said. "I don't think 'maybe it won't turn out for the best'. Football is in my blood and I just want to get back to fitness and playing again.
"But I'm told the bone will

actually be stronger than before as the metal pin inserted will stay there for life and will take all the weight between the ankle and the knee."

Another player recovering from an appalling injury is the Wolves striker, Don Goodman, who has revealed that he risked death to save his career after fracturing his skull six months ago. Goodman would have had to quit the game without surgery, but has admitted that the nature of operation could have put his life at risk.

The gamble paid off for the player who scored 20 goals last season before sustaining the injury in a collision with Huddersfield Town's Steve Jenkins.

The 30-year-old Goodman has played for the reserves wearing headgear and can play without the need for after 27 October. Goodman said: "I don't

want to over dramatise it, but the risk of death was there if I had an operation. But the skull had to be elevated and if it wasn't operated on then I wouldn't have been able to head a ball again."

England short of scorers

Oilt Inline Seas-based of the Court Seas-based of the power and rebounding strength when his team face Latvia at Leicester on 30 October, in the only Englishmen in the top 20 first of three European Championship semi-final round group games before Christmas, writes

Richard Taylor. The statistics from the first four weeks of the season vivid-Moph. Iv illustrate the effect of the exodns of several leading internationals to the Continent and the influx of Americans in the Budweiser League.

club, instead of two, has reduced the role of most English men to bit-part players in the League. Roger Huggins, of Sheffield

Sharks, and Crystal Palace's Richard Scantlebury, both in Nemeth's 17-man squad, are the scorers. Huggins is the only Eng-lishman in the top 20 rebounders, at 15th. Nemeth will look to the six

Continental-based players for points and rebounds, especially Steve Bucknall and John Amaechi, playing in Greece, and Spencer Dunkley and Ian Whyte, from French clubs. Bucknall is scoring freely but his club, The League's decision to allow up to five Americans per ly and have sacked their coach.

Bourdy in a big hurry

Whitaker's mount, who is only a seven-year-old, had cleared the fences comfortably Hubert Bourdy jumped a whirlbefore showing his inexperience wind round in one of the three coming into the final obstacle. vast and beautiful arenas of the "He began spooking and I Club Hippico la Silla, where he thought he was going to stop, won the opening class of the In-Whitaker said. But, against all ternational Horse Show here by the odds, the horse responded comfortable margin of to the rider's urgings and got his 3.05sec, writes Genevieve Murstride right at the last moment

phy from Monterrey, Mexico. to clear the fence. The Frenchman's principal Dinky Toy probably lost three victim in the Seguros Comercial or four seconds there, but he America Welcome Stakes was a still would not have been faster Mezian rider. Alberto Harari, on than the flying Frenchman, who won three classes here last year. Omnistrom Royal Moon, Next came the Californian-based Bourdy was last of 50 to jump Irishman, Damian Gardiner. on Ursula de Clery, a 10-yearon the speedy mare Pinon Kat-ia, and Michael Whitaker on old mare he only started riding this year.

Tolin McRac has won the San Remo Rally for the first time. The former world champion. lriving a Subaru Impreza 555. seat Carlos Sainz by 22sec in the regultimate event of the 1996 World Rally Championship. The Spaniard, in a Ford Esart Cosworth, narrowed the

onds from yesterday's second stage but was unable to catch the race leader. The 28-year-old McRae completed the Italian race in 4hr 26min 57sec. Bruno

Football elropean cup-wi SECOND ROUNT PLEAS
Sion V Liverpoot (7.0)
Sion V Liverpoot (7.0)
Other Heat Climpie Lubiants (Slover) v AEX
Athenie (5.0); Barcelona v Red Sarr Belgade
(8.0); Galametray (fur) v Pans St-Germain
(8.30); Batum Bergint (fur) v PSV Endinoism
(1041) (7.0); Florandras (fur) v Sperta Prague
(7.45); Mirred (7) v AEX Solma (Swe) (4.0); Berntree v Leitzmoth Missorie (9.0). Thiry, of Belgium, was third. Finland's Tommi Makinen,

Yesterday's football

AAON PISURANCE COMENATION League Cup first round; Swansea City O Bristo City O; Wimbledon 1 Portsmouth 1. Tuesday's football

Tuesday's football
UEFA CUP Second round first leg: Aberdeen O Brondby (Den) 2; Ferenceires
(Hun) 3 Newcestle Utd 2; Borussia
Mönchengladbech (Gen) 2 Mooseo (F) 4;
Club Bruges (Bel) 2 Nationel Bucheses (C;
Dynemo Tollisi (Geor) 1 Blowista (Por) 0;
Espanyol (Sp) 0 Feyencord (Neth) 3;
Culmaries (Por) 1 Anderlecht (Bel) 1; Heteingborgs (Swe) 2 Neuchairel Xernax (Swr)
0; Internationale (R) 1 Casimo Geze (Aut)
0; Karlsruhe (Ger) 3 Roma 0; Lezio (R) 1
Tenerite (Sp) 0; Legio Wassaw 1 Besidas
(Tur) 1; Metru (Fr) 2 Sporting Lisbon 0;
Schalke 04 (Ger) 1 Trabzonspor (Rur) 0;
Slavia Prague 0 Valencia (Sp) 1.
NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First

States Prague o Veterios (Sp) 1.

MATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First.

Division: Barnsley o Oxford Unit 0; Birmingram 1 I pswich 0; Botton 1 Trannere
0; Portsmouth 0 Wolves 2; Reading 2 Manchester City 0; Shesfield Unit 3 Cheriton 0.

Second Division: Biackpool 3 Wresham
2 Represent th 1 Phymouth 0; Bristol City Second Divisions Biscippol 3 Wreshem 3; Bournemouth 1 Plymouth 0; Bristol City 3 Wycombe 0; Crewe 0 York 1; Notis County 0 Chesterfield 0; Peterborough 0 Brantford 1; Rotherheam 0 Bistol Rowers 0; Shrewsbury 1 Gillingham 2; Stockport 1; Luton 1; Walsell 1 Preston 0; Warford 2 Burnley 2. Third Divisions Bogfrom 0 Hereford 1; Centiff 2 Darlington 0; Colchester 1 Barnet 0; Exeter 2 Carlisie 1; Fulhem 3 Carmbridge Und 0; Hartlepool 1; Swanses 1; Leyton Onent 0 Chester 0; Mansfield 0 Wigan 1; Rochales 2 Lincoln 0; Scarborough 3 Hull 2; Scurnthorps 2 Northempton 1; Torquey 1 Doncaster 0. GM WILDCHALL COMPENENCE Dover 0 Famborough 0; Kestering 0 Hednestord 2; Mac

borough O; Kettering O Hednesford 2; Mac-clesfield 2 Stalybridge O; Tallord 1 Bath 1; Welling 1 Hayes O; Woking 3 Stevenage 1. BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE First Divisio Stirling Albion 1 St Johnstone 3; Ardrie 2

2 Atherton LR 0.

ICS LEAGUE Pression Division: Dutwich Hemiet 2 Hendon 1: Grays 0 Censistron 1: Mrgstonion 3 Purifiest 2; Staines 1 St. Albans 2. First Division: Addershot 1 Molessy 3: Barton Rosers 0 Walton & Hershorn 1; Billencay 1 Chesham 2; Hampton 2 Abingdon Town-1; Maltenhead 2 Marlow 3; Thame 1 Wolfingham 1; Horting & Mitchem 3 Carney Island 1; Whytolesis 1 Libridge 3; Worthing 1 Croydon 2. Second Division: Barlong 2 Brachmell 1; Hungerford 6 Egham 4.

UNBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Barlow 3 Chorley 0; Buston 0 Boston Utd 2;

UNBOND LEASTE Premier Division: Bu-row 3 Chorley C; Buston 0 Boston Und 2; Marine 2 Knowsley 2; Rancom 1 Alfreston C; Spernymoor 1 Hyde 1. First Divisions Gretna 2 Workington 1; Hamogate Town 0 Lincoln United 3; Stocksbridge PS 0 Mea-lock 2; Whitey Bay 2-Farsley Cetts 1. Chal-lengis Cap first resent; Congleton 0 Fischo 2; Leigh Rivil 0 Radeline Borough 0. First-round replay: Netherfield 2 Lan-casser 3; Worksop 5 Estavood Town 2 (see).

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Divisi

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Ashford 1 Gravesend 1; Cambridge City 1 Baidock 1; Chelmsford 1 Crawley 0; Dorchester 1 Newport AFC 3; Gresley Rovers 1 Atherstone 1; Helesower Itown 5 Goucester 4; King's Lyrn 2 Sudbury Ibwn 1; Numeston 2 Burton 1. Midland Division: Biston 0 Stafford 1; Grantham 3 Raunds 0; Moor Green 3 Hinckley Town 1; RC Warwick 2 Evesham 1; Shepshed Dynamo 0 Sutton Codifield 0; Shourbodge 1 Redditch 1. Southers Division: Buckingten Rown 0 Vorbridge 1; Clarefrort 2 Clevedon 3; Erith 1 Margate 1; Fisher 2 Waterlooville 2: Newport IoW 2 Havent 3; Weston-super-Mare 0 Chrancester 0; Wirney 4 Reat 0. Dr Marthos Cup first round first leg: Termworth 3 Bedworth 0.
FEDERATION BRIEWERY MORTHERN

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE

wellingsorough :

INALET SUISSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First
Dhylsion: Ringmer 1 Saltdenn 2; Shore-ham 2 Peacehaven 0; Wick 4 Mile Oak 1.
John O'thra League Cup second round:
Portfield 3 East Preston 3 (aet) SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Di vision: Bridgwater 2 Bideford 2; Elmons 0 Taunton 6; Torrington 4 Chard 3.

Premier Division: Woodbridge 0 Diss 0; Wrothern 4 Wisbech 1, League Cup first round: Sweffham 1 Hadleigh 2. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Divisions Arnold 1 Armthorpe Welfere 0; Belper 3 Glesshoughton Welfare 2; North Ferrity 4 Thackley 1. INTERLIBY * ITELEMENT L
INTERLIBY & ITELEMENT L
INTERLIBY EXPRESS MIDI.AND ALLIANCE
Industrial Revelods League Cap. first
round: Barweit O Suppervill 2: Rocester 2
Bridgnorth 1; Willenhall 1. Krypersky Victoda O. Invitation Cup: Halesowen Herriord O Sandwell 2.

WELSH CUP Second-round replayer Brid-gend 4 Haverfordwest 2; Exbw Vale 2 Pontargend 4 Heverfords dawn 1 (act). PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Clachracuddin 2 Wick Academy 1; Lossie-mouth 0 Huntly 3. WILKINSON SWORD IRISH LEAGUE CUP

PONTINS LEAGUE Second Division: Grimsby 2 Bradford City 1. Tuesday's rugby union WELSH MITIONAL LEAGUE Second Divisions South Wates Potce 27 Aberason 16; Porty-pool 73 Ystradiganlais C; UMIC (Cardiff Inst-tute) 14 Massag 22; Borymaen 5 Llandover, 29; Cross Keys 79 Abercynon 0; Aberdillery 0 Blackstood 24.

CLUB MATCH: Oxford University 18 Beth 35. SRU UNDER-21 INTER DISTRICT CHAMP-IONSHIP: North & Mid Scotland 32 Glasgow District 21; Scottish Edles 24 Edinburgh Dis-UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Stall fordshire 5 North Michards 37.

TODAY'S FIXTURES PONTINS LEAGUE First Divisions West Bromwich Albign y Leigester City (7.0). PREMIER LEAGUE: toward v Swandon (7.30)

Athletics

Sebastian Coe yesterday rejected the goomy predictions for British athletics after the failure to win an Olympic gold in Atlanta. He backed young talent such as Iwan Thornas and Angela Thorn to continue to progress, providing the sport does not neglect its clubs. "I read we were dying on the vine in Atlanta," the former double Olympic 1500 metres champion said at an awards hunch in london. "I'm much more ortimistic continued to progress that the progression of the London. "I'm much more cotim about the future than that. Our clubs' structure is the envy of the world." Coe, president of the north London club Harings, was presenting awards for best new athletes. Thomas, a member of Britain's silver medal-winning 4 x 400 melay squad and Thorp, who broke the national 100m hurdles record in Atlanta, were voted best track competitors along with field events winners Dean Macey (decathlon) and Janine Whitlock

Boxing

Unbeaten heavyweight Hasim Rahman, 23, from Baltimore, won a 10-round unanimous decision over Trevor Berbick at Caesars Atlantic City Hotel Caesno after dominating the fight throughout. Wilfred Bendez, the former world wel-

terweight champion, regained con-sciousness yesterday after collepsing on Friday. Benitez has suffered an inflam-mation of the brain for seven years. The English cricket will face the future with

English critice will lead the National Chicket Association yesterday effectively voted for its own abolition. NCA members agreed unanimously to follow the lead of the Test and County Chicket Board by approving the establishment of an English and Indian Vote. ishment of an England and Wates Crick-et Boatd. The ECB will come into being on 1 January after the NCA agreed with the decision taken last month by the TCCB at a special meeting at Lord's. Warwickshire have made the first move to sign the England A betsman David Hemp after his decision to leave Glamorgan. They are expected to approve Warwickshire's formal request to talk to the 25-year-old left-hander when he be-

Eddy Mercks, the former world cham-pion, said yesterday he would quit as Belgian team coach and accused the national cycling union of lacking pro-tessionalism. The made up my mind. Merckx said. "Lugano was my last World Championships as a coach." The World Championships ended last Sunday with a Belgian victory achieved by Jo-han Musecuw in the men's road race. "I find it difficult (to accept) the method of working in the cycling union, the lack of professionalism," Merckx said. MEAN-TO-TURN RACE (2064m speek 1.0 Nardello (R) 4hr 43min 37sec; 2.5 Zenni (R) +3sec behind; 3.L istaben (Fr); 4.R Vengus (Fr); 5.F Casagrande (R) \$r.

comes a free agent on 1 November.

Equipment/Tamis and acontented international Horse SHOW (Marison): Segaros Comercial America Welcomo States: 1 Ursula de Cary (H Bourd, Fr) dear, 22 Caser, 2 Omristrom Royal Moon (A Harar, Mer) clear, 65 AS; 3 Pron

Katja (D Gardiner, ki) clear, 67.01; 4 Dinky Toy (M Whitaker, GB) clear, 67.47.

Burntey have signed the Australian de-fender Doug Hodgson, 27, from Sheffield United on a month's loan with a view to a permanent £200,000 deal Steve Hodge, the former England mid-field player, is having trials with Second Division Bristol City. The 33-year-old ex-Nottingham Forest, Leeds and Spurs player, had a short spell with Watford last season and trained with Aston Villa during the summer, but has yet to find a club this season.

DUBAI CREEK OPEN TOURNAMENT Lemding second round scores: 139 J M Singh (trails) 71.68; Choi Hyung-ju 65 Koh 70 65; P Freetander (Swed 65 70, 140 P Fonler Was) Preciancer (SMED) 69 70, 1980 Provincer (NLS) 70 70; Yel Hills Han (Burme) 88 72, 141.6 Hamahan (US) 75 86; J hamohan (US) 71 70; M Marmat, (Sing) 70 71; K Wan-bre (S Kor) 69 72, 142 6 Nonquist (US) 73 69; R Ponce (EC) 71 71.

ice hockey MHL Tampe Bay 4 Buffalo D; New Jersey 3 Montreal 2; Chicago 3 Toronto 1; Delice 3 De-troit 1: Colorado 7 Edmonton 2; Los Angeles 3 Philadelphia 2.

Alessandro Nannini, who will test a Benetton-Renault next month, said yesterday it was highly unlikely he would ever make a comeback to Formula One racing. The Italian, whose F1 career came to an abrupt end in October 1990 when his right am was severed in a he-licopter accident, also denied numours that the Benatton boss, Flavio Briatore, would hire him as a treat driver. If Iron? would hire him as a test driver. "I don't think my body could physically manage to complete the full distance of an F1.

Rallying Rallying
SAN RENO RALLY Lending final pleeings:
1 C McRee (6B) Subaru Impreza 4hr 28min
57sec; 2 C Sainz (Sp) Ford Escort Cosworth
+22sec; 3 B Thry (Be) Ford Escort Cosworth
+2min 9sec; 4 K Eriteson (Swe) Subaru Impreza +2-44; 5 F Law (Be) Toyota Celea GI4
+2-51; 6 F Canico (It) Ford Escort Cosworth
+2:54; 7 G Planezzola (It) Toyota Celea GI4
+4-01; 8 D Auriol (Fr) Missubert Lancer at
4:53, 9 A Medagyini (It) Subaru Impreza et
8:02, 10 P Bernaruni (Fr) Ford Escort Cosworth
+8:02. World Championethip points;
safter eight of nine events; 2 T Makiner
IFIN 115; 2 Seitz 80; 3 Erisson 76; 4 McRee
72; 5 P Listi (It) 41, World Manufacturers Championship points; 1 Subaru 340;

Regby League Widnes have signed forward (an Con-nor from Swinton Llons in exchange for the Great Britain Under-19 Academy Intemational Wes Rogers.

72; 5 P Listii (ily) 41. World Manufactur-ers Championship points; 1 Subaru 340; 2 Mitsubishi 304; 3 Ford, 274.

St Helens are hoping to sign the New Zealand Test centre, Richie Black-more. The former Castleford player is keen to return for a second spell in Britain and Saints have confirmed the Interest. David Howes, the club's chief executive, said yesterday: "We are interested in signing Richle, who has alert ed several clubs he is available."

Ragby Union TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: CLUB MATCH: Oxford University 18 Both 35. UNDER 21. COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: SMEardshire 5 North Melands 37. SREL UNDER-21. INTER DISTRICT CHAMPI- gow District U21 21; Scottish Exiles U21 24 Edinburgh District U 19. WELSH NEUTONAL LEAGUE Second Division: South Wales Police 27 Aberavon 16; Porthy-pool 73 "stradgardase 0; UWC (Cardiff Inst) 14 Weesteg 22; Bornyman 5 Ilandovery 29; Cross Keys 79 Abertymon 0; Abertiflery 0 Blackwood

SQUERSIT
PERRIER WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPERRIER WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPRONSHIP (Matayana): Third quasifying resent:
Pool & Amstratia 3 United States C, South
Africa 2 Germany 1, Pool B: England 2 Now
Zestand 1 (Eng names first): C Jackman to P
Beams 7-9 9-7 9-18 +10 9-2, S Homer lost
to I, March 2-9 2-9 2-9, I, Chamnan bit S Cook
10-8 9-1, 2-9 6-9 9-4; The Netherlands 3
Egypt 0, Pool 0: Camain 3 Instant 0, H Waltace bit A McArtie 9-0 9-2 9-3, M Jams bit I,
Printagan 9-4 5-9 9-0 8-9 8-8, K Souchere
au tr.0 Fersch 9-5 9-5 9-5; Finland 3 Matayaha
0, Pool D: Scottland 3 Finland 3 Matayaha
0, Pool D: Scottland 3 Finland 3 Matayaha
0, Pool D: Scottland 3 Finland 3 Matayaha

au no Herch 9-5-9-5; Finland 3 Nachy Ma 0. Pool Dr. Scottland 3 Prance 0. S. Mache bt C Castera 4-9-4-9-5-9-2; C Wadden bt (Stoett 8-10-9-4-9-0-10-8; W Matdend bt C Vegin 9-4-9-0-9-5; Hong Kong 2 Japan 1, Pool E: Brazzi 3 Italy 0, Denmark 2 Spain 1. Po

Tennis Germany's former Davis Cup player Carl-Uwe Steeb is to retire from the sport. The 29-year-old, who has struggled with injuries in the last few years, has been given a wild card to finish his profes-sional career at next week's Stuttgart Onen.

Open.

CECH OPEN INDOOR TOURNAMENT (Outward First named: M Darron (2: Rep) by D Van Scheppingen (Netth 6-3 6-4, G Rusedska (GB) by G Basti (Sett) 6-4 7-6; I Guardole (Fr) by O Muse (Fr) 6-1.4-66-4. Second round; J Novak (Cc Rep) by B Ultimach (Cc Rep) 6-4 6-2. van (12 Hep) of B Untracti (12 Hep) 6-4 6-2. ISRAÉL OPEN (Tel Arbi) Finst rouset: A Cos-to Sp) br E Ran Reri 6-4 6-2; F Mandala (Sp) br I Tuyal (Sp) 6-3 6-4; G Stationt (SA) or D Norman (SA) 6-2-7-6; S Dapper (Aus.) br I February (Fri 6-4) 6-4; R Fromberg (Aus.) br L Jonsson (SWe) 6-4-1.67-6; M Feppon (Long) br D Nestor (Can) 7-6-4-67-6. MARLEORD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Hong Kong)
Round-stbia, Red Group: PRafter (Hus) by Vicilenicor (Rus) 6-4 4-6 6-4. Sièver Group. B Black
(Zimb) 16 Conneil (Carl) 6-3 6-4. Gold Group:
J Boristran (Swe) bit N Golden (SA) 6-2 6-3.

EUROPEAN BIDDOOR WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Zunich) Second round: M Hings (Swit)
bit I Spirise (Rom) 6-3 6-3; J Novotra (C. Rep)
bit B Scheft (Aut) 4-6 6-4 7-5; S Farna (II) bit
A Koumikova (Rus) 0-6 7-5 6-2.

A Koumhous (Rus) 0-b 7-5 0-2.
TEXACO LADIES CHALLENGER (Cardiff) First rounts: C Wood (489) in M Strandurd (Swo) 6-4 6-2. S Smith (689) in S Presents (Por) 6-3 6-3. A Stido (Fir bit A Torotol (68) 6-2 6-1. D Challenger (18) 6-6-0. W Problems (Por) 6-3 6-0. W Problems (Por) 6-0.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The suitcases that the Brazilian footballer Romario brought back to Rio de laneiro from Spain. The striker, who has fallen out with his club. Valencia, had to hire a minivan to take his luggage from the airport to his flat.

Take one phone number wherever you go.

Imagine a Personal Number that's yours for life. Wherever you go, your customers, colleagues and friends get you the first time on one number. Call interconnect for details.



nge



DAMON HILL: 'I'm still flying. I haven't come down yet. I'm coming down in layers, day by day'

Beardsley vows to make amends

Football

Peter Beardsley is used to taking the plaudits rather than the flak, but yesterday the Newcastle United captain owned up to the blunder that left his team walking an Uefa Cup tightrope and promised: "I'll put

it right in a fortnight."
The 35-year-old's peerless assing had propelled Newcastle to the top of Premiership at Derby on Saturday, but on Tuesday night in Budapest Beardsley's sureness of touch deserted him at the worst time, as he gifted Krisztian Lisztes the winner in Newcastle's 3-2 defeat against Ferencearos.

Beardsley was quick, however, to come to terms with his inadvertent role in the matchwinner. "I was to blame for the third goal and I've got to hold my hands up and admit I was at fault," Beardsley said. "There can be no excuses for what I did. I made a mistake and I know it. All I want now is the chance to make amends and puts things right in the second leg."

While Beardsley's error was costly, at least he and his teammates returned from Hungary with the knowledge that the tie was still there for the winning.

When shocking lapses at the back let in Ferenc Horvath and Lisztes to give Ferencearos a two-goal lead inside 17 minutes. the Typesiders' European dream was looking in tatters. But Les Ferdinand hauled the Magpies back into the game when he converted Alan Shearer's cross, and Shearer himself then found the target for his fourth goal in a week to give Kevin Keegan's men the priceless asset of two away goals.

Ferdinand acknowledged the value of his ninth strike of the season. "It was a very important goal for me, and probably the most important I've scored since I came to the club," he said. "Certainly it made a big difference to us, and it might prove to be the one that keeps us in the competition. We knew we had to try to score an away goal, and luckily we got two

when we needed them most." It has now been three goals in three games in the Uefa Cup for Ferdinand this term, but the £6m striker does not entirely agree with the suggestion that the European business is an easy

proposition.
"I wouldn't say easy, but it's



Les Ferdinand finds a way through the Ferencvaros defence in Newcastle's 3-2 defeat in Budapest on Tuesday night

been good for me so far, and I hope that continues," he said. We made the sort of start you have nightmares about. You can't account for individual errors and we got really punished.

When we were two down after 15 minutes it was looking pretty grim, but we managed to stick to our task rather than getting blown away. We always felt we could score goals, and we managed to pull it back, although after getting ourselves back in it we're disappointed that we didn't go on to win it."

done if the Swedish referee, Leif Sundell, had not allowed the Ukrainian defender Sergei Kuznyecov to get away with a 90-minute display of wrestling and balking which left Alan Shearer angry and frustrated.

Shearer, whose mood was not helped by the last-minute offside flag that ruled out a perfectly leequaliser, accused the defender of "being inside my shirt all night". Ferdinand, who received more than his own fair shares of bruises from Janos Hrutka before picking up a cau-Perhaps they would have tion, agreed with Shearer, com-

plaining that the officials had not applied the laws consistently. He booked one of them early on, but I think he lost his bot-

tle a bit after that and decided he wasn't going to send anybody off. It didn't help when Alan's goal was disallowed at the end. He couldn't have been offside, because Rob Lee pulled it back, so there's no chance he was.

"But it was given and now we've got a big test back at St James' in a fortnight. The good thing is that with the two away goals we know a 1-0 win, or even 2-1, will get us through. I think senal midfielder John Jensen

Newcastle, put 11 men behind the ball and say come and beat us'. But we opened them up a few times and that gives us the belief that we can do it again and get it right next time."

If Newcastle think they have

we all know that they'll come to

got problems advancing, then they should look at the dilemma Aberdeen have got themselves in after losing 2-0 at home to Brondby on Tuesday.

Yesterday, the Aberdeen assistant manager, Tommy Craig, conceded that the former Ar-

was right with his claim that control but were never really in charge of the game. Brondby Scottish sides are not skilful were teetering at stages and looked there for the taking but enough to succeed in Europe. we lost bad goals just at the end of each half and paid the

Jensen, now the midfield general of Brondby, branded the Dons as technically inept and insisted a change in style was necessary to beat the best the Continent had to offer.

Craig, who is also the Scotland Under-21 manager, has argued as much for years but knows it will take a fundamental change in approach to make that a reality. What annoys me about our result is that we have seen it all before. We flirted with

penalty," he said.
"Those wounds were self-in-

flicted and, although our boys showed honesty in looking for goals, there was a naivety that went along with that. We proved our football is not suited to Europe and we need to get the fine balance right between playing at home and abroad."

More football, page 31

Jockey power calls off Haydock

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Racing GREG WOOD

Trainers, owners and punters were left angry and bewildered at Haydock Park yesterday when a wildest strike by 21 jockeys forced the stewards to abandon the card after just a single race. The riders, including Lanfranco Dettori. Pat Eddery and Walter Swinburn, felt that the track was unsafe, and refused to leave to the weighing-room before the Sycamore Nursery Handicap. Swinburn described the

ground as "atrocious" after riding in the first race, while Dettori said: "I don't think it's safe and all my colleagues agree with me. The jockeys were particularly concerned that horses might slip on the turn ing the straight, but when the steward ards inspected the course as a result of their complaints, they decided that the card should continue. When the jockeys still refused to ride, abandonment

was the only option.
Gary Hind, who was due to ride Sparkling Harry, was happy to go along with the word of the senior riders. "As soon as those who went our reported back to us we decided that we should all stick together and not race. I haven't had a good season and this was my only ride today. We all wanted to ride but if it's unsafe why go out there and take the risk?

But the jookeys' actions, or in-action, did not please everybody. 'I have never known anything like this," Bill Nunneley, the stewards' secretary, said. "There was nothing more we could do. We will submit a confidential report to the Jockey Club and it is up to them to take the matter further."

Anthony Cann, whose father, owned a runner in the nurs echoed Nunneley's frustra "It's just mob rule," he sai These jockeys are getting l footballers, they are just too (for their boots.

Since many of the jockeys ! travelled a long way to rid, Haydock and were giving up chance of remuneration, it to assume that their conwere genuine. Their dec may yet prove more costly however. The only recent pl dent for yesterday's events v y 1969, wden 11 joexe including Swinburn - refused to ride at Beverley. They were later fined between £250 and £750.

However, John Maxse, a lockey Club spokesman, said: It wouldn't be fair to compare that incident with this one. We've not had the report from Haydock yet so we don't know what is going to happen."

_eague warns players' union against striking don Taylor, and his deputy, fund," Nevin said. "Last time any more. The brinkmanship

Association have been accused of manufacturing a show of strength that could throw the Football League season into strike chaos.

Pat Nevin, the PFA's chairman, fired the opening shots as the deadline for a ballot to take industrial action passed at lunchtime yesterday, but the Scotland and Tranmere winger was met by an instant riposte nouncement of the result of the their mandate, whether they in-

No. 3120. Thursday 17 October

ACROSS

1 Don once more sup-

made waves (7)

the dailies? (8,7)

female) name (5)

A deal of unity (9)

sleazy English (9)

15 A little beast - your set-

16 Put faction to rest and

18 Level trees cultivated

round Royal garden ar- 5

ter, that is! (5)

cross over? (9)

plies the remedy (7)

Speeded round lake and

Revolution reported by

Polish (and reportedly

'Right' moralist's cut by 1

Cry from leader of war 2

21

22

piece (5)

lem (9,6)

ter letter (9)

Agent, Bond, cracked ci-

oher ultimately (9.6)

with social groups? (7) 13

23 Brackets the little man'

24 State gets unruly type

DOWN

Unwinds with excess

Nasty creepings inside

Purgative girl's brought

Frequent note, with

are an increasing prob- 19

Dear's preoccupied af- 20

turned away (7)

ing stance over television cash could backfire on the players.

"The outcome of the ballot is entirely predictable," the League spokesman, Chris Hull, said. "The players, as an act of blind faith, will give the PFA a mandate to take industrial action. But we feel that the an-

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

from angry League officials, ballot on Saturday will be tend to use it is another matter." who claim the union's unbend-utilised by the PFA as a public Union leaders expect to be relations exercise. They want to is an act of brinkmanship that flex their muscles and, as a result, the issue will be turned into

Dome inlaid with liber-

Out on a limb? (3,6,6)

Clumsy pest KO'd com-

Settlers? I agree, taken

Employment figures?

in small measures (9)

15 Trying one's luck, or de-

17 Trained rude tot to be-

Frightfully gloomy Eng-

Bachelor's captivated

by short strip queen (5)

clining? (7)

lish lake (5)

have (7)

al gold? (5)

puter (7)

a media circus. "But the PFA should also be aware of the consequences of persisting with this line of action because it could prove harmful for many of their members. And although the PFA will be given

given overwhelming support by their members as they look to secure the 10 per cent levy that has been traditionally paid to them from cash generated by television screening rights.

The League have countered that the old agreement is archaic in light of the recent £25m deal

struck with Sky TV.

Union leaders expect to be Brendon Batson, at a meeting we had a ballot five years ago of European football unions in On the Premier League, or Athens, it was left to Nevin to Division One as it was then, we defend the PFA's stance during an interview on BBC Radio 5

> "A few weeks ago the Foot-ball League decided to renege on the 10 per cent deal. That money goes into things like the education fund, benev- the Football League will realise

had over 90 per cent backing. The players generally trust

He added that the League had made no moves to accom modate the players' demands. "As soon as we get the mandate,

has been taken right to the

The League have declared their intention to seek an injunction blocking strike action, nsisting players would be contravening industrial legislation.

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olent fund and insurance that we are not playing games **Injured Baia rated** doubtful for Barcelona

ably move forward into Leonar-

es the Portuguese side's secondround tie against Lokomotiv Moscow to play for his country. But the Benfica coach, Paulo

Autuori, is unperturbed, saying:

"Someone else will take his

Fiorentina, the winners of the

first Cup-Winners' Cup final in

1961, are confident of over-

whelming Sparta Prague in their first leg in Florence. The Italians

have taken only five points from

their five Serie A games to date but their captain, Gabriel Batis-

tuta, believes his side are about

"I feel I can make a promise

to the fans - Fiorentina and

to recover their form.

place and know what to do."

defence at left-back.

Barcelona, resigned to losing their Brazilian striker Ronaldo for tonight's Cup-Winners' Cup tie against Red Star Belgrade, now have a goalkeeping crisis on their hands.

The Portuguese international Vitor Baia pulled up in training with a ligament strain in his right knee and is doubtful for the

first-leg match at Nou Camp. The second-choice goalkeeper, Julen Lopetegui, is also injured and on Monday the reserve goalthe club to play American foot-ball for the Barcelona Dragons. As a result, 29-year-old Car-

los Busquets is set for an unexpected comeback to Barcelona's first team. Busquets was a regular under the former manager, Johan Cruyff, but when Bobby Robson took over at the Catalan club, bringing Baia with him from Porto, the Spaniard slithered down the ranks into the third team. If he plays it will be his first top-level appearance since Robson

and Baia arrived in the summer. At the other end of the pitch, the Spanish international striker Juan Pizzi is set to replace Ronaldo, who misses the clash with the Yugoslavs because of a Brazilian friendly which has also

deprived the holders, Paris St-Germain, and Portugal's Benfica of their first-choice strikers. PSG will be without Leonardo, whose seven goals to date have helped them to build a com-

now," the inspirational Argentinian forward said. Batistuta missed a penalty in Saturday's 0-0 home draw with Lazio and says he has a debt to repay to Fiorentina's fans. "If we get a manding lead in the French league, for their first-round tie in it," he said. Turkey against Galatasaray.
"We'll surely miss him." the
Brazilian's fellow midfielder

penalty against Sparta, I'll take The Nigerian striker Nwankwo Kanu will have heart surgery in the United States

think we have enough good players to manage without him."

Laurent Fournier will probland, Ohio, for the operation, sen a specialist clinic in Cleve-land, Ohio, for the operation, which would be carried out in the next two to three weeks.

do's attacking midfield role, with Jose Cobos coming into the The Milan club, who bought Kanu from Ajax this season, had PSG are expecting a tough game in Istanbul's Ali Sami Yen no immediate comment on the report. The newspaper said Kanu had visited specialists in stadium, in stark contrast to London, Amsterdam and the United States, who had contheir first-round tie against Vaduz of Liechtenstein, whom they beat 7-0 on aggregate.
The Benfica striker Osmar firmed the findings of Italian cardiologists that he was suf-Donizete - like Ronaldo, the fering from a "valvular msuffitop scorer in his league - missciency of the aorta".

Kanu helped Nigeria to Olympic gold in Atlanta and won the European Cup with Ajax in 1995. He has vowed to overcome his heart problem, which doctors say may mean he will never play again. "I'll fight to the end before giving up," an said last month.

The player's problem was diagnosed in medical tests at Internazionale after he had moved from Ajax, raising doubts over the validity of the transfer deal. La Gazzetta said Fifa, the world governing body, had written to the two clubs arging them to come to an amica ble solution.

Batistuta are just about to take The Australia coach, Eddie off and the worst is behind us Thomson, has quit to take up a £260,000-a-year job as head coach with the Japanese J-League side Sanfrecce Hiroshima. Thomson will take up his new post early next year. Australia's Olympic coach, Raul Blanco, will take over as acting national coach. Thomson

was cleared in June last year of corruption by a parliamentary inquiry into overseas transfers Vincent Guerin said. "But I next month. The 20-year-old

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